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CONTENTS

PAGE

Complaints: Follow-Up Reports and Corrective Action (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, various dates)	1
Recreation for Children Provided	
Construction Officers Disciplined	
Maintaining High Competitive Spirit	
Tightening Up Indoctrination Work	
Indoctrination at Sports Clubs	
Improper Response to Criticism	
Steps To Improve Control	
Improving Living Conditions	
Specific Personal Letters Answered	
Discipline, Indoctrination Improvements Stressed	
Cover-Up Uncovered, Corrected	
Respect for War Veterans	
Champion Weight-Lifter Disciplined	
Disciplinary Practices Straightened Out	
Moscow Construction Abuses Corrected	
Undisciplined Officer Demoted	
Officers Use Deceit To Obtain Better Quarters (A. Yurkin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 17 Mar 78)	10
Training and Duties of Military Topographers Described (L. Petrov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 18 Mar 78)	13
Political Officer Influence on Flight Training Discussed (V. Kuzovov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 18 Mar 78)	15
Leningrad Military District Commander on Combat Traditions (M. Sorokin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 19 Mar 78)	18
Importance of Careful Officer Candidate Selection Stressed (Editorial; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 21 Mar 78)	22

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Improvements in Troop Living Conditions in Leningrad Noted (N. Goncharov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 26 Mar 78)	25
Readers Comments on Cadet's Complaints About Strict Discipline (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Mar 78)	29
Sociological Survey Results of Tank Company Personnel (V. Kovalev, B. Pendyur; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 29 Mar 78)	32
Shortcomings Noted in Mass Sports Program in Aviation School (I. Maksimov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 29 Mar 78)	44
Use of Training Films for Legal Indoctrination of Servicemen Discussed (S. Morozov, et al.; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 30 Mar 78)	47
Instructor Guide for Indoctrination of Imperialist Armies (V. Yakovlev; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Apr 78)	50
Review of Third Volume of Soviet Military Encyclopedia (L. Korzun; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Apr 78)	68

COMPLAINTS: FOLLOW-UP REPORTS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

Recreation for Children Provided

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Just So They Do Not Scratch the Floor"]

[Text] "Just So They Do Not Scratch the Floor" — this was the title under which KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 18 January published a letter to the editor by Sr Lt V. Khmyrov and a comment by Maj Gen V. Anikovich, chief of the division of culture of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy. The material published told about the indifference shown in a certain remote garrison to organizing recreation activities for the children of servicemen.

Lieutenant colonels V. Bantyukov and V. Pshenichnyy have reported to the editors that the mistakes in work with the children of servicemen referred to by the author of the letter did occur. Steps are being taken to straighten things out. Specifically, the table tennis section has been allowed to practice in the lobby of the club, a hockey rink has been set up through the efforts of public volunteers, and adolescents are being involved in skiing competition and sports games.

Construction Officers Disciplined

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "The Universal Housewarming"]

[Text] The verse feuilleton by L. Kulikov published on 24 January of this year was entitled "The Universal Housewarming." It told about the shortcuts and defects in the construction work of the contracting organization led by Col-Engr A. Lavrenov in building a housing unit.

Lt Col A. Kasatkin, chief of the political branch, has reported to the editors that the criticism was deserved. The newspaper piece was discussed at an expanded meeting of the party committee of the project manager's office. The attention of Maj-Engr O. Volkov, chief engineer of the construction organization, was called to his low standards of work quality. Maj-Engr V. Goncharov, chief of a construction-installation section, was removed from his position and demoted for permitting defective work and failure to take care of problems on time during construction of the building.

A plan of work for the quality commission was drawn up to improve the quality of construction-installation and finishing work and technical training for officers and military construction workers was organized.

Maintaining High Competitive Spirit

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Do Not Lose the Lead"]

[Text] The article by Col V. Izgarshev, published on 10 January 1978, told about failure to use important and effective reserves in competition to be a leading unit.

The chief of the political branch of district aviation has reported to the editors that the criticism was deserved. The administrative officers of district aviation have made a careful study of the questions of the organizational and ideological activity of commanders, political workers, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations of the aviation division. Additional reserves were discovered and recommendations were made to use them in the struggle to be the leading unit in the Air Force. Steps were taken in conformity with the principles of the Letter of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee to summarize the know-how of the leaders and disseminate it broadly among the units and subunits.

Tightening Up Indoctrination Work

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Instill Vigilance"]

[Text] The report by Lt Col A. Pimenov entitled "Instill Vigilance" was published on 27 November 1977. It told about shortcomings in the work done by the party bureau until recently headed by Capt G. Rybalkin to instill vigilance.

As the secretary of the unit party committee has reported to the editors, the article was timely and useful. It was discussed in the sub-unit party organization. The discussion was continued at the

report-election meeting of the unit, where communists G. Rybalkin, A. Starynin, S. Kalyakin, and Maj V. Lopushanskiy, deputy subunit commander for political affairs, were sharply criticized for their mistakes.

The party committee carefully analyzed the work of communists to instill high vigilance in personnel; the matter was also taken up at a seminar with newly elected party group organizers and secretaries of party organizations. In addition, the issues raised in the article were reviewed at a meeting of subunit commanders. All these steps helped raise the level of indoctrination work and improve the performance of guard duty by personnel.

Indoctrination at Sports Clubs

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "A Sense of Personal Responsibility"]

[Text] "A Sense of Personal Responsibility" was the title of an article published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 7 December 1977. The article expressed a number of remarks aimed at improving the indoctrination and training work of army sports organizations and clubs.

Lt Gen O. Artem'yev, deputy troop commander of the Red Banner Far Eastern Military District and chairman of the district sports committee, has reported to the editors that the shortcomings reported by the article in the work of the Khabarovsk Army Sports Club in the indoctrination of international-class sports masters did indeed occur. The newspaper article was discussed at a party meeting of the club. The conclusions and recommendations drawn from the article were also reviewed at an expanded meeting of the district sports aktiv and the coaches council of the club. The coaches with poor moral and work qualities who were unable to train and indoctrinate athletes in conformity with present-day requirements have been removed from training work. Specific assignments have been set for each coach and athlete for 1978-1980. Monthly progress reports by senior coaches are being given at meetings of the coaches council.

A response was also received from Lt Col O. Boyko, chief of the political branch of the Central Army Sports Club. He informed us that the article "A Sense of Personal Responsibility" aroused great interest among the athletes and coaches and in the party and Komsomol organizations of all the club's teams. It was discussed at coaches councils. Serious problems in their work were pointed out to track coach Capt N. Karasev and judo coach Sr Lt O. Stepanov. Capt N. Karasev received an order from the chief of the club warning him that he must perform his duties in full.

A theoretical conference for coaches with the title "The Athletic Team — A Center of Political Indoctrination" is to be held in the

near future. At the recommendation of the political branch of the Central Army Sports Club meetings on the subject "The personal responsibility and patriotic duty of the army athletes" have been held with many teams.

Improper Response to Criticism

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Stiff Measures"]

[Text] On 28 January Maj V. Zhitarenko published a report under the title "Stiff Measures." The article told how the party organization of the N tank regiment had not created an atmosphere of truly high standards based on principle and comradeship and that certain communist leaders, in particular Lt Col P. Gorobets, were neglecting careful indoctrination work with subordinates and relying basically on disciplinary punishment.

The chief of the unit political branch has reported to the editors that the KRSNAYA ZVEZDA article was discussed with all unit and subunit political workers and steps were planned to eliminate the problems. Lt. Col P. Gorobets was given a stern explanation of his omissions in party political work and warned that if there is a repetition of things like those mentioned in the newspaper he will be held responsible before the party.

At the same time, a good half of the response to the editors was taken up with a list of the "sins" of Capt G. Vorob'yev, the author of the original letter to the editors which led us to send a correspondent to the unit. It was not difficult to see what they meant: the newspaper, they were saying, was a little out of line to pay attention to the statements of such a person.

Well, this is not a new approach, to respond to critical remarks by pointing out the weaknesses of the critic himself. Let us recall that the report "Stiff Measures" did talk about Capt G. Vorob'yev too, about the fact that his reason for writing was in some degree hurt feelings, wounded self-esteem. But even considering that the author of the letter to the editors was not without fault, does this deprive him of the right to criticize shortcomings and report them to the press?

The political branch of the N unit must certainly understand this very well. We only regret that unhealthy response to criticism was nonetheless made.

Steps To Improve Control

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "No Changes Occurred"]

[Text] On 18 January Lt Col V. Devin's report entitled "No Changes Occurred" telling about flaws in the workstyle of the party committee of

the N unit and its inadequate influence on the everyday life and training of lagging subunits was published.

Guards Lt Col I. Shevchenko has reported to the editors that the newspaper article was discussed at a meeting of the party committee, at the administrative party organization, and at a meeting of unit officers. Concrete steps were outlined to eliminate the problems. Specifically, checks on fulfillment of plans for combat and political training in the subunits were strengthened. Communist officers V. Dolgoplov and V. Fomin gave reports at a session of the party committee. At the present time the progressive know-how in indoctrination work of Sr Lt A. Kosmach, company commander, has been summarized.

Company commander Sr Lt V. Dolgoplov received a disciplinary punishment for violation of the schedule of special training periods. His request for removal of an earlier party reprimand for omissions in training and indoctrination of subordinates was refused.

Improving Living Conditions

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Seven Nannies"]

[Text] The report published on 17 January of this year under the title "Seven Nannies" told about shortcomings in everyday living arrangements for the officers and warrant officers [praporshchiki] of the N unit of the Volga Military District.

Maj Gen P. Pavlov, first deputy chief of the district political directorate, has reported that the newspaper article was discussed in the trade directorate, the construction directorate, and the housing operations division. The criticism was recognized as deserved. A decision has been made to build a new messhall at the post. The equipment in the present one has been repaired and closer checks are being maintained on the quality of food preparation. A regular day has been established for taking orders for tailoring and repairing clothing and footwear. The construction of officers quarters in the district is now going forward on the basis of improved designs and a search is underway for ways to fix up the dormitory mentioned by the newspaper. Military construction workers will complete a clean-up campaign of the area around the residential buildings before July of this year.

Specific Personal Letters Answered

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Steps Have Been Taken"]

[Text] In their letter to the editors, comrades Zhukov, Luk'yanov, and Korelov, regular-term servicemen, said that the deputy commander for technical affairs had taken away their drivers licenses without reason. The

letter was sent to the headquarters of the Kiev Military District for investigation. Col-Engr V. Shelipov has reported to us that the facts of the case were confirmed. Capt V. Tsyganenko, deputy commander for technical affairs, has been reprimanded for exceeding his authority.

"I was discharged into the reserves more than six months ago, but I cannot receive my documents from the unit," WO Res V. Simonov reported to the editors. The editors sent his letter to higher headquarters. From there we were told that Comrade Simonov's documents have now been sent to him and the persons responsible for failure to handle his case properly have been given disciplinary punishment.

Militia captain V. Tverdiv reported to us: "A. Kravchenko, a regular-term serviceman now discharged into the reserve, is unable to get a reference from his military unit in order to take a job at the administration of internal affairs of the Moscow City Executive Committee." The editors sent his letter to the political directorate of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. An answer signed by Maj Gen M. Tarakanov, deputy chief of the political directorate, has been received. Comrade Kravchenko's work reference has been sent to his address. Company commander Sr Lt A. Balashov and Sr Lt A. Nikul'shin, his deputy for political affairs, have been given disciplinary punishment for irresponsibility in this matter.

Discipline, Indoctrination Improvements Stressed

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "A Punched Ticket"]

[Text] The report by Lt Col P. Chernenko published on 2 December 1977 told of improper disciplinary practices in the subunit commanded by Maj A. Kuz'mich.

Lt Col Yu. Kostyuchenko reports that the facts set forth in the report have been fully confirmed. The command and political branch of the unit have taken a number of organizational and educational steps to eliminate the shortcomings noted in the newspaper article. Special training periods have been organized and are conducted regularly with all officers, warrant officers, and employees of the military vehicle inspectorate to study orders, directives, and other documents concerned with questions of traffic safety and accident-free operation of motor vehicle transportation.

Maj A. Kuz'mich has been sternly reprimanded for poor indoctrination work with officers and warrant officers. Lieutenants R. Gabdulgazyev and V. Pavlyuk and Warrant Officers A. Machul'skiy and O. Tarasov have been held accountable for violations of disciplinary practice and insulting subordinates. WO P. Stepanenko has been discharged from the ranks of the Soviet Army for systematic violations of military discipline and non-regulation relationships with his subordinates.

Cover-Up Uncovered, Corrected

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Just for the Sake of Justification"]

[Text] The report by Lt Col (Ret) I. Moshkovskiy published under the title "Just for the Sake of Justification" on 27 January criticized employees of the construction directorate of the Moscow Air Defense District for the false report they sent to the editors in response to an earlier critical article entitled "Turn Over the Building at Any Cost!" on 9 December 1977.

According to Lt Gen-Engr V. Shekhovtsev, deputy district troop commander in charge of construction and billeting, and Maj Gen Avn A. Soshnikov, first deputy chief of the district political directorate, the newspaper article was discussed with management personnel of the district construction and housing operations directorates.

Col A. Tishkin and Lt Col-Engr (Res) V. Goncharov's incorrect response to criticism was sternly condemned. Col-Engr I. Kusakin, chief engineer of the district construction directorate, was held responsible by the party for unprincipled actions in organizing work at the construction site. The building in question was removed from the list of housing introduced in 1977. Col Tech Serv G. Nevskiy, chief of the project manager's office, was held responsible on a party and disciplinary basis for submitting an incomplete building for acceptance by the state commission.

Respect for War Veterans

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "With Due Regard for Possibilities"]

[Text] A report published on 20 January of this year told of the inattention met by I. Kravtsov, a veteran of the Great Patriotic War, trying to find housing in the city of Kemerovo and of the need to be respectful toward those who took part in the battles and defense of the motherland.

As Col V. Novikov, chief of the political branch of the Kemerovskaya Oblast military commissariat, has reported to the editors, the article was discussed at the Kemerovskaya Oblast CPSU committee, at the oblast, city, and Zavodskiy Rayon executive committees of the Soviets of Worker Deputies, and at the oblast military commissariat. Concrete steps are being taken toward further improvement in the living conditions of war invalids, families of deceased veterans, and also former veterans of the front. A decision was passed to improve Comrade Kravtsov's housing conditions. Fulfillment of this decision is to be checked by the oblast military commissar and the political branch of the oblast military commissariat.

A similar statement was received from the Kemerovo city executive committee. It says that S. Popok, a division manager at the executive committee, has been told that persons calling on the executive committee must be treated tactfully.

Champion Weight-Lifter Disciplined

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "When People Neglect the Interests of the Collective"]

[Text] A letter published by the newspaper on 28 December 1977 told of the incorrect attitude of a weight-lifter toward his team during the competition for the USSR Cup in weight-lifting. The athlete was WO N. Kolesnik, national record holder from the Carpathian Military District, and a member of the Armed Forces team.

Col Gen N. Abashin, chairman of the sports committee of the Carpathian Military District, reports to the editors that the newspaper article was discussed at a meeting of the district weight-lifting team. The criticism of WO N. Kolesnik was recognized as correct. The coaches council of the L'vov Army Sports Club and the collective of the section believe that N. Kolesnik, an experienced athlete, should thoroughly analyze his actions while he was defending the sports honor of the Armed Forces at the competition. WO N. Kolesnik admitted his mistakes.

The sports committee of the Carpathian Military District, considering that WO N. Kolesnik has received nothing but good recommendations since he began serving in the district in 1971 and that as an athlete he has risen from novice to USSR record-holder, decided to limit its action to provisional disqualification for one year.

Disciplinary Practices Straightened Out

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "A Shaky Position"]

[Text] The report by Capt Just V. Sergeyev published under the title "A Shaky Position" on 29 January of this year told of shortcomings in the indoctrination work of one of the construction collectives of the Volga Military District.

Lt Col V. Laptev reports that the newspaper article was discussed at a meeting of management personnel of military construction units and subunits. Lt Col A. Vodolat reported at a session of the party bureau. Steps were outlined to eliminate violations of military discipline and non-regulation relations among servicemen.

Moscow Construction Abuses Corrected

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Unreceptiveness"]

[Text] The feuilleton published on 8 February under the title "Unreceptiveness" told how, despite numerous warnings, Lt Col M. Merkulov, commander of a military construction detachment, continues to allocate men for work in civilian organizations and how the project supervisor's office headed by Lt Col-Engr A. Gorshev sold allocated materials on the side and failed to organize proper security for physical assets.

Col L. Balashov, deputy chief of the political directorate of the Moscow Military District, has informed the editors that the things mentioned in the feuilleton did indeed happen. The newspaper article was discussed with the chiefs and secretaries of the party committees of construction organizations. The district political directorate demanded that the political branch take a stricter, more principled approach in evaluating errors and abuses by officials and improve its management of the party organizations of military construction units. The district deputy troop commander for construction and troop billeting and the district political directorate called the attention of Col-Engr V. Gutman, chief of the district construction directorate, and Col N. Rosol, chief of the political branch of the construction directorate, to the need to strengthen checks on the economic-financial and production activities of the construction organizations and units subordinate to them.

Communist Col Tech Serv N. Zaytsev, chief of the project supervisor's office, was given a party reprimand for failure to take effective measures to stop cases of employing personnel at jobs in civilian organizations.

Undisciplined Officer Demoted

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Mar 78 p 2

[Article: "Is the Load Too Heavy?"]

[Text] On 8 February KRASNAYA ZVEZDA published a report by Capt 2nd Rank-Engr A. Kontiyevskiy under the title "Is the Load Too Heavy?" The article told of the undisciplined behavior of political worker Maj A. Kashayev and his weakness in special training. Col N. Beda reports to the editors that Maj A. Kashayev has been removed from his position and demoted for a negligent attitude toward performance of duties and lack of personal discipline. The party organization gave him a stern reprimand which was entered in his official records.

OFFICERS USE DECEIT TO OBTAIN BETTER QUARTERS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Mar 78 p 4

[Article by Maj A. Yurkin, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "The 'Metamorphosis' Operation"]

[Text] Many former colleagues regarded the request of Col (Res) V. Tseloval'nikov to improve his living conditions with understanding. From the words of Vasiliy Vasil'yevich it seemed that six persons--he was the seventh--were crowded together under his parents' roof--and the quarters were 40 square meters, all told.

Engr-Lt Col O. Popov, a chief of one of the rear area services, was the first to respond: "It is necessary to help him out of his trouble. It is necessary to rescue...."

Having assumed the initiative, Oleg Dmitriyevich Popov did his utmost. To get around the existing regulations the son-in-law of V. Tseloval'nikov was included on the list of those desperately needing quarters and received a warrant for a modern comfortable apartment.

After moving into the apartment and when passions had died down, comrade Popov decided to insure himself in any event and give an appearance of legality to the illegal action. It turned out that under the parents' roof of his former colleague only two people were registered in the three rooms which had an area of not 40 but more than 50 meters. There was also a complete discrepancy with the son-in-law--he was not connected with armed forces and, of course, did not have the right to receive quarters from the Ministry of Defense fund.

As a result of deep thought, a plan of operations which was given the code name "Metamorphosis" among a narrow circle of trusted people was born. The operation provided for transforming Tseloval'nikov's son-in-law-- I. Plyukhin, from a civilian into a serviceman with the rank of warrant officer (praporshchik).

Popov apportioned the basic work--the assembly and drawing up of personal documents--equally between himself and V. Tseloval'nikov. They obtained what

they could by different ways and means. Among the various other documents, one--on a form with an official stamp which mentioned that Plyukhin, Ivan Frolovich, after completing his regular term had remained on extended active duty and is now serving as a warrant officer--made an especially strong impression.

One of Tseloval'nikov's former colleagues, Col V. Nechesov, signed this certificate for the unit commander. As a result of this complicity, a document was born to the schemers which contradicted reality since electrician Plyukhin had not served in the army even for one day.

A certificate verifying the living conditions of the imaginary warrant officer was concocted in the same way. Lt Col German Vasil'yevich Zhuravlev--a worker in the rear services and a member of the party bureau, fastened his signature to it. The certificate mentioned the need to allot quarters to Plyukhin as to one without quarters.

G. Zhuravlev now strains his memory: "I did not participate in the inquiry. Whether I placed my signature--I also forget...."

It is difficult to recall that which has been stricken once and for all from memory. Who would like an official misdemeanor and a violation of the law to receive publicity? At the time it is necessary to answer this, but this is not in the plans of those who are not used to considering our moral and legal norms. However, it is not said by accident that no matter how much the rope is twisted, there will be an end....

The story about finding quarters for I. Plyukhin also has its logical end. However, it is not out of place to recall here that there had to be a covering detachment on the path of the light-fingered people in the person of the Novosibirsk garrison KECH [Housing Operation Unit] housing group. It includes experienced people capable, it would seem, of discerning a "con-artist" in a hurry.

However, they did not discern him because Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel Popov, who had gradually acquired experience in establishing contacts with the necessary people, found the desired flaw. He quickly and on a "business-like basis" arranged matters with F. Tolstov, the director of the housing group. For his services, Tolstov requested quarters for his daughter. The deal was made. An application which tearfully and far from objectively reflected the state of affairs was drawn up and addressed to the garrison chief.

The garrison chief avoided a direct answer but left instruction on the application which in view of their vagueness provided the dodgers an opportunity to again get around the law.

Engr-Lt Col O. Popov and F. Tolstov quickly drew up a list of persons to receive quarters and included on it completely out of turn Tolstov's daughter--Borodina, Tat'yana Fedorovna--omitting the local trade union committee and

the housing commission. The commander of the subunit where the daughter of Fedor Moiseyevich works was surprised when he found out that his subordinate had received quarters since she had worked, as they say, only a short period of time.

F. Tolstov says: "Why should she stand in line when there is an opportunity?"

Fedor Moiseyevich fabricated the opportunity to receive quarters by himself. He simply kept to himself the fact that one of the officers who had been released into the reserves had surrendered his quarters.

The mental worm-hole, secret for so long and no longer, right away made itself known. Repeatedly fighting for fairness and legality during meetings and having a reputation as a highly principled worker, Fedor Moiseyevich was suddenly transformed into an unprincipled individual.

Engr-Maj A. Grinev, the garrison KECH chief, is distressed: "I did not expect such a thing. He was such a decent fellow...."

In January 1975, serious shortcomings in the distribution and use of quarters had been noted in the Siberian Military District--especially in the Novosibirsk garrison. Conclusions were drawn but, alas: It looks as if the river of forgetfulness has already washed away its banks long ago. The fallacious principle of distributing housing based on kinship and friendship is still operating. A highly principled evaluation must be given to this.

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TRAINING AND DUTIES OF MILITARY TOPOGRAPHERS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 78 p 1

[Article by Lt Col L. Petrov: "A Point on the Map"]

[Test] The mountains were piled up around us. Their snowy caps like a magnet drew the glances of the men. It seemed they were quite close. The distance was concealed because of the great size of the heights. Actually, the summit which the topographers had to conquer was quite high.

Majs. V. Sergeyev and V. Khen headed the group. They drew up a diagram of the movement route, checked the equipment of their subordinates and their readiness for the ascent, and assigned specific tasks to each specialist.

In general, the class was a normal one for the topographers. They had to redo a map of a small terrain sector. However, to do this it is necessary to climb to the summit. Naturally, it is not possible to do this without a high level of physical training and without firm mountain climbing skills. Therefore, mountain training occupies a special place in the subunit. Not a single topographer is allowed to climb until he has fully completed all the requirements imposed on the training of alpine sportsmen.

The survey subunit performs its work in almost inaccessible regions of our country. There is not a single summit here which has not been conquered by the military topographers, there is not a single ravine which has not been investigated by them. Some of the tall mountain summits have names given by the specialists in the subunit. For conquering one of them, five of the detachment's officers--V. Ratsek, P. Rapasov, N. Gamaleyev, A. Koksharov, and A. Arutyunyants--received the high award of the USSR's Geographic Society--the gold medal imeni P. P. Semenov.

Organization, discipline, and a developed sense of comradeship and responsibility for the common cause--these and many other outstanding qualities help the topographers to perform their complicated work. The talk during a party meeting held in the subunit not long before the ascent concerned the inculcation of these qualities. They talked about how to raise the personal responsibility of the collective's members for the quality of performance of the planned operations.

It seemed that it was necessary to determine a point on the ground and plot it on a map. But what if this map still did not exist at all. And the summits, like two drops of water, were similar to each other? The very complicated calculations began here. The initial data for them was determined with the help of aerial photographers and various instruments. However, no matter how modern the equipment is, they, the people, place the last point. A sense of personal responsibility for carrying out the collective task and faithfulness to the glorious traditions of the subunit help them in this.

It is possible to say that a sense of pride for the profession of a military topographer had been instilled since childhood in Sr Lts A. Shirokov and V. Shishov to whom had been entrusted the most labor-consuming operation on the summit. Their fathers, who still eliminate "white spots" on maps, implanted in them a love for this profession.

Sr Lt Shirokov says: "Why in our work is it doubly important to carry out honorably the obligation imposed on you and to put spirit into the work? People will travel tomorrow along the base points which we determine today with such scrupulousness. They will orient themselves using our maps".

The senior lieutenant efficiently placed the instruments and made some calculations. Ever newer and newer columns of figures grew in his work notebook.

Near by Lt Ya. Uglyanitsa also worked with concentration. Both officers are graduates of the Leningrad Higher Military Topographic School. After graduation they themselves requested to be sent to these parts in order to test and harden their characters. Here, they were convinced that not so much the severe service conditions would harden them but primarily the troop collective would temper them. Representatives of 20 nationalities serve in the subunit. They live as a friendly family. An atmosphere of strict mutual exactingness and military comradeship reigns in the collective. Many young officers, including Shirokov, Shishov and Uglyanitsa, are obligated for their rapid formation to the collective and its veterans--communists V. Plotin'sh, V. Khen, V. Sergeyev, and others who zealously followed the professional growth of the young officers.

Maj V. Khen carefully checked the calculations made by the young officers and was satisfied with the work.

He said: "I have a suggestion, comrades. Place the diagram of the ascent route and the results of our calculations in a capsule and leave it for those who will come here following in our tracks."

Having moved a rock near the foot of the pyramid, they saw another capsule. In it was a diagram of the ascent route and the results of research which was performed here many years ago by a group of military topographers headed by Maj. V. Semerenko. The capsules were placed side by side near the foot of the triangulation point. They stood silently, each one thinking his own thoughts and then began to descend. Through a break in the clouds a mountain stream was dimly seen far below.

Major Khen who was moving in front glanced back. Behind him the entire group looked up to the pyramid near which an invisible meeting of two generations of military topographers took place.

POLITICAL OFFICER INFLUENCE ON FLIGHT TRAINING DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 78 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen Avn V. Kuzovov, chief of the aviation political section, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "Critically Evaluate What Has Been Achieved"]

[Text] Messages about the fact that the unit where Maj Ye. Arustamov, a political worker, serves had started to surrender the positions it had conquered began to arrive in the aviation political section and headquarters of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. The process of forming the young officers had been delayed somewhat. Meanwhile, we had a right to expect higher results from this collective. We were talking about a once excellent unit where significant experience in training skilfull aerial fighting men had been accumulated.

It would be possible to name quite a few reasons which led to the lowering of quality in the training process: the costs in planning and organizing flights, violating consistency in training flight and technical engineering personnel, the passivity of the instructional methods council which had been called upon to make a significant contribution to the work of preventing flying accidents and the preconditions for them. All this had its place. However, the fundamental principle of the deficiencies consisted of something else.

One remembers a meeting of the aviation party active of the group of forces. A communist from the leading element of this regiment who spoke during it didn't even attempt to analyze the errors in the work of ensuring flight safety. The content of his presentation boiled down to listing achievements during the past year. The basic reason for the shortcoming was hidden in the complacent attitude of some communists and in the dulling of their sense of personal responsibility for the state of affairs.

It is impossible to say that such a "failure" happened in the mentioned regiment. No. The aviators are capable of skilfully using complicated equipment under the strenuous conditions of modern combat. I cited this example to show how much admiration for former services slows down one's forward movement.

The December (1977) Plenum of the CC CPSU and the Letter of the CC CPSU, the USSR Council of Ministers, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, and the Komsomol Central Committee on spreading competition during 1978--in developing the ideas of the 25th party congress--have armed us with an accurate program for the struggle for effective military work. The slogan: Work today better than yesterday and tomorrow better than today, has moved onto the daily agenda. It is completely understandable that the course to such a reference point supposes constant dissatisfaction with what has been achieved. To evaluate critically the work which has been done and to search for and find new reserves means to be concerned genuinely and in a party way about raising the combat readiness and military skill of personnel.

In this regard, the activity of the party committee in the fighter aviation regiment which Lt Col G. Kolodiy commands is instructive.

The regiment has every reason to be proud of its achievements--its accident-free work--by the fact it has had the title of excellent for six years in a row already. However, what is characteristic of this collective is the fact that there exists a situation of mutual exactingness and self-criticism.

As they say, he who does not work makes no mistakes. When solving complicated tasks, derelictions of duty at times happen in a big collective such as this regiment. It is important to determine their sources, to prevent a repetition, and to draw lessons. There was the following: some people permitted themselves to weaken. In one of the squadrons several young officers--recent graduates of military schools--were being prepared to take classification tests. However, the necessary rhythm was not set for it. For example, Lieutenant Likhovidov had by the beginning of the tests hardly achieved half of the attack norms which were necessary to master the initial classification. There were also other negative facts. In some subunits they decreased their attention toward the organization of socialist competition. Evidently, some party activists counted on the fact that these negative phenomena would disappear by themselves. The possible counting on such "self-elimination" of deficiencies, of course, was fallacious.

The party committee, headed by Maj F. Khmel'kov noted these tendencies in time and reacted sharply to them. A spirit of true party criticism and self-criticism ruled over the party committee meeting. At the same time, the comrades who spoke made specific suggestions to increase combat readiness and the level of flight training further. A topical discussion about improving the work style of the party committee and party bureau was held. And it was beneficial. During the present training year, communists and all personnel have noticeably advanced in improving flight training and combat perfection.

The conclusion from what has been said is, evidently, understandable. In one regiment they clearly overestimated their merits, were complacent and lost the honorable title of right-flank individuals in competition. In the other

collective, they continually remember that it is impossible in any case to be satisfied with what has been achieved and that this leads to dangerous consequences and they take the most energetic steps to battle against complacency.

The constant aiming at ever newer heights, the inner discontent and dissatisfaction with "average" results, the innovative search for new reserves--these must be part and parcel of every communist. The task of political organs and party organizations is to arouse in people this exactingness towards themselves and this striving for the best. The first impulse, of course, must come from communist leaders. Their attitude is very important. Here, I would like to again mention the regimental commander, Lt Col G. Kolodin, and the secretary of the party committee, Maj V. Khmel'kov. One of their important virtues is the ability to evaluate accurately what has been achieved and to detect shortcomings in a timely fashion. However, this isn't all of it. They also know how to be attentive to the opinions of subordinates and this is very important since it's as if such an attitude on the part of a leader "sanctions" the desire of the fighting men to make sensible comments and suggestions....

The letter of the CC CPSU, the USSR Council of Ministers, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions and the Komsomol Central Committee which attaches great importance to the development of criticism and self-criticism as an effective way to eliminate shortcomings and indoctrinate personnel, aims right at this. In this connection the GSFG aviation political section is striving to have every communist leader understand the very essence of the criticism and self-criticism method, to have every aspect of the work of each fighting man and each collective receive an objective rating, and not permit a liberal attitude toward shortcomings and those guilty of them but combine trust and respect for people with high exactingness for the carrying out of party and service duties.

The aviators of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany are persistently struggling to carry out high socialist obligations and to see to it that they honorably justify the high trust which was expressed in Soviet fighting men in the greetings of the CC CPSU, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the armed forces. In the struggle for new achievements in combat training our party organizations are striving to finally get rid of any type of complacency, placidity and conceit. Such a principled party approach permits new reserves for a progressive movement forward to be revealed and the tasks assigned by the 25th CPSU Congress to be carried out in a fitting manner.

8802
CSO: 1801

LENINGRAD MILITARY DISTRICT COMMANDER ON COMBAT TRADITIONS

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 2

[Article by Col Gen M. Sorokin, commander of troops, Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District: "Faithfulness to Traditions"]

[Text] The fiery words in the greetings of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers to the fighting men of the heroic armed forces of the Soviet Union in connection with the 60th anniversary of the Soviet army and navy have been deeply imprinted in the hearts of each of the motherland's armed defenders. In them there are an acknowledgement of the services of the USSR armed forces to the party and the people and an accurate definition of the tasks which they have been called upon to solve today. The lines of the document resound for us as a high order: to improve one's combat skill in the future, persistently master modern equipment, constantly improve organization, and strictly carry out the military oath.

In order to carry out his sacred constitutional duty in an exemplary manner, maintain high combat readiness, and attain new achievements in combat training it is necessary to tirelessly improve indoctrinational work practices in units and subunits. In requiring from commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations a complex approach to it and instilling in personnel high moral fiber, political vigilance, utter devotion to the socialist homeland, internationalism and combat cooperation with the fighting men of fraternal armies, the party emphasizes the importance of skilfully accustoming personnel to the glorious revolutionary and combat traditions of older generations and the augmentation of these traditions with selfless military work.

Revolutionary and combat traditions.... A mighty indoctrinational charge is generated in this invaluable spiritual legacy which is carefully passed from generation to generation. By understanding traditions with their mind and heart, young fighting men join in the heroic past of the party, the people and our heroic armed forces. They become morally richer and see more distinctly the deep social and political meaning of their daily work and the role of their generation in the creation of communism.

The combat traditions of our armed forces, as Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, the USSR Minister of defense, emphasized in his report, "Sixty years of Guarding the Accomplishments of Great October," were born in the fires of the civil war--during that heroic time when the foundations of Soviet military science and the military art of a new type of army created under the leadership of the Communist Party headed by V. I. Lenin were being laid. From the very beginning our combat traditions have been inseparable from the glorious revolutionary traditions of the party and people and have had the same basis as them-- utter devotion to communist ideals.

Getting accustomed to traditions presupposes first of all a convincing and easily understood explanation of the essence of these traditions and the understanding of clear examples of the Soviet people's heroism which are capable of having a strong emotional impact on personnel and which the history of our homeland and the combat chronicle of the armed forces are rich in. The history of the military district, division, regiment and subunit where a fighting man has the honor of serving provides exceptionally abundant material for indoctrinating personnel in revolutionary and combat traditions.

For example, the legendary past of our armed forces and the immortal revolutionary and military exploits of our great people have been reflected in the history of our district just as the sun is in a drop of water. The workers' and peasants' state was born in the city on the Neva--the cradle of the revolution. Here, the first units of the young Red Army were formed under the leadership of V. I. Lenin. The 1st RKKA [Workers' and Peasants' Red Army] Corps began to be formed three days after the adoption of the decree on organizing a workers' and peasants' army. The executive committee of the Petrograd Soviet declared Saturday 23 February to be the Day of Defending the Socialist Homeland. PRAVDA wrote on that day which became the training point in mobilizing revolutionary forces to create new Red Army detachments. "A mass recording of volunteers has begun." Soon, in March 1918, our military district was created. It is one of the oldest in the armed forces.

The officers, warrant officers (praporshchiki), soldiers and sergeants talked about this with pride when the personnel having adopted the patriotic initiative of the fighting men in the Southern Group of Forces, included themselves in the struggle for the title of progressive district and the struggle to mark the year of the glorious 60th anniversary of the armed forces with new achievements in training and competition.

Addressing the district's history provides an opportunity to reveal more thoroughly the history of our army and its genealogy to personnel during the indoctrinational work process. It helps commanders, political workers and all the officers to influence subordinates with striking facts and to persuade them with specific examples.

The study of the history of large units and units must begin for each fighting man on the day of his arrival at his place of service and run all through subsequent indoctrination work.

There are quite a few divisions and regiments in the troop composition of our district whose combat banners are covered with the glory of victories at the fronts of the civil and Great Patriotic wars. Many generations of Soviet people fought the enemy under them and assimilated military affairs. The biographies of thousands of frontline soldiers and of those who served during the postwar years are, for example, connected with the Guards Motorized Rifle, Red Countryside, Order of Lenin, Red Banner Division imeni A. A. Zhdanov; with the Guards Training Motorized Rifle Leningrad, Red Banner, Order of Kutuzov Regiment imeni Leninist Komsomol; and with other large units and units which became famous during combat and during peacetime training days.

Many subunits which participated in the Great Patriotic War also have their own unfading history. There is the Battalion of Glory in which all the soldiers and sergeants were awarded Orders of Glory for the courage and valor displayed in the battles south of Warsaw and when moving to the German border. There is the company in which all personnel were awarded decorations for their unparalleled heroism during the battles in the "Neva Salient" at Leningrad. There is the heroic Komsomol battery which performed a collective exploit at Murmansk where a monument will be erected in its honor.

In a word, each troop collective's traditions which are common to all the armed forces are filled with their own specific content. It is important to consider this during indoctrinational work when implanting in the fighting men pride in their unit and their subunit and a yearning to be worthy of their glory.

Accustoming our officer youth to combat traditions is unthinkable without an integral link to the study of frontline experience in the area of tactics and strategy. This has not lost its significance even in the military technological revolution. The entire system of professional training for command personnel must be directed toward instilling in them the high moral and political qualities which were inherent in front line officers and implanting combat skill and the ability to achieve victories over an enemy in the most complicated of situations

In our district quite a few units where combat traditions are skilfully publicized are seeing to it that they--if it is possible to express it this way--work, that they elevate people morally, and that they help them to master difficult military work more successfully. Today, the traditions, which are connected with the skilfull mastery of weapons and equipment and with raising the quality and effectiveness of the training process and which are born and strengthened during socialist competition, play a special role. For example, in the Guards Tank Fokshansko-Gdan'skiy Red Banner, Order of Suvorov Regiment it is not the first year the competition winners have been awarded prizes named for heroic brother-soldiers. Here, in front of a regimental formation a pennant is raised every month in honor of the company which has achieved the highest indicators in carrying out the training plan and the obligations which have been assumed. On the eve of the district's 60th anniversary the subunit which Guards Sr Lt I. Kharlov commands was awarded such an honor.

The indoctrination on traditions must be conducted constantly using all methods and on a broad front so as to ensure the interconnection of the traditions of the various plans and to exert a mobilizing influence on all aspects of the troop collective's life: mastering equipment and weapons, performing guard and administrative details, maintaining exemplary regulation procedures in all sectors, strengthening the atmosphere of mutual help and troop comradeship and friendship among personnel, etc. Faithfulness to traditions is primarily displayed in the persistent and unremitting struggle for the high effectiveness of the training process and the high quality of each class and in the maintenance of a constant combat readiness which answers modern requirements.

The indoctrination of personnel in the revolutionary and combat traditions of the older generation is more effective, the more integrally it is linked to the solution of the tasks facing the unit and subunit. In this regard, the experience acquired in the Guards Training Motorized Rifle Regiment imeni Leninist Komsomol seems instructive to me. Discussions about some episodes or other along the combat journey of the unit and the exploits of brother-soldiers are organized here so that they inspire young fighting men to skilfull, decisive, audacious actions during a specific class. The talk usually concerns not courage in general but its mainifestation under certain conditions. Meetings between the men and veterans are frequently organized in the regiment. Competition winners are given an opportunity to visit the sites of their brother-soldiers' battles. A distinctive chronicle of the famous actions of those who inherited the traditions of the frontline soldiers and increased them during peacetime is kept in the unit. The accumulated material is used during political classes and lectures and in visual agitation.

The practice of a number of other units is rich in examples of skilfull work in instilling faithfulness to combat traditions in young fighting men. The ways are various: Komsomol cards for memorable frontiers; trips to sites of revolutionary, combat and work glory; invitations to participants in the war to meet with the men; ceremonial rituals which remind each one of the continuity of the generations.... In this field of indoctrination, just as in any other, creative searches and a complex approach are needed.

Unfortunately, the accustoming of personnel to the glorious traditions of older generations is still not conducted everywhere because time is required for it. Some commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations do not always consider in this important work the high general educational level of young fighting men and their intense interest in the little known pages of the war.

During the 25th CPSU Congress it was emphasized that the strengthening of the ideas of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, of pride in the country of the soviets and our motherland, and of the readiness to exert every effort to defend the accomplishments of socialism in the consciousness of the workers is one of the most important tasks of the party. To make a maximum contribution to the solution of this task is the high duty of army communists and of each one who trains and indoctrinates the armed defenders of the homeland.

IMPORTANCE OF CAREFUL OFFICER CANDIDATE SELECTION STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 78 p 1

[Editorial: "Worthy Ones to Military Schools"]

[Text] Great rights, including the right to select a profession in accordance with one's calling, capabilities, professional training, education, and with a consideration of public needs, are granted by the Constitution of the USSR to the citizens of our country. In exercising this right, thousands of youth every year express the desire to become officers and to enter a profession which enjoys the love and deep respect of the people--the honored profession of a defender of the socialist motherland. Among those having this desire there are soldiers and sailors, sergeants and petty officers, graduates of secondary schools and professional technical institutes. They normally possess high moral and political qualities, a good general educational preparation, and strong physical training. Nevertheless, only the best of the best become cadets.

This is caused by the fact that high requirements are placed on future officers--the graduates of military schools. The responsibility for ensuring constant combat readiness, for the excellent training of personnel, for instilling in Soviet fighting men infinite devotion to the socialist homeland, and for maintaining military discipline and strict regulation procedures at the necessary level in units and on ships, is imposed on them. In order to successfully solve these tasks an officer must know and be able to do a lot.

Thanks to the constant concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet government for the strengthening of our state's defensive capabilities, in particular, the training of officer personnel, the overwhelming majority of military training institutes have become higher ones and their graduates are receiving a higher education. The schools are staffed with experienced commanders, political workers and instructors and have available a modern training logistical base and rich libraries. This helps cadets to successfully master the political, military, and special knowledge and firm practical skills which an officer needs.

Along with this, the quality of training future commanders, political workers, and military engineers and technicians depends a lot on the entering contingent. Therefore, high exactingness must be shown when selecting candidates--this is now beginning in units, on ships and in military commissariats--and when accepting them into the schools.

As a rule, this work is conducted in an organized manner. However, some deficiencies took place last year. The political and work qualities of those who had laid claim to entry into military training institutes were not always evaluated objectively and fully in troop units, on ships and in military commissariats. Some of the commanders blocked the entry of servicemen into the schools regarding them as another branch or arm of service. Cases of the incorrect filling out and untimely submission of documents and of the perfunctory preliminary medical examinations of candidates were noted. The admission committees did not work accurately everywhere. Deviations from existing admission rules were allowed, for example, in the Voronezh Higher Military Aviation Engineer School and in some other military training institutes.

The commanders and political workers of units and ships have been called upon to play an important role in selecting worthy replacements for the schools from the ranks of soldiers, sailors, sergeants and petty officers. Their task consists of thoroughly studying fighting men who have expressed a wish to become cadets. In this regard, it is necessary to consider the discipline of the servicemen; his attitude toward training, service and the performance of his duties; public activity; moral qualities; and readiness to devote his life to military service as well as considering the specific results he has achieved in combat and political training.

More attention on the part of commanders and political workers must be devoted to the training of first-term servicemen who have been selected for entry into the schools and for the coming examinations. Each of them must be given an opportunity to take courses of instruction. Experience shows that such courses achieve maximum effectiveness in those cases when they are organized in garrisons where the most experienced instructors can be involved in conducting classes with the candidates.

Military commissariats who in accordance with existing orders select candidates for military schools from the ranks of civilian youth are faced with performing crucial work. It is necessary to study the political and work qualities of future cadets in close contact with Komsomol committees. Military commissariat officers are required to arrange for the preliminary medical examination and assemble, put in order and transmit the necessary documents to their destination. Each of the stages in this important work must be accomplished in a strictly established time period. Formalism, procrastination and carelessness can be a serious obstacle for applicants on the path to a military school.

Military commissariat workers must do a lot to further improve the professional orientation of youth who wish to become officers and to provide comprehensive help to them in their selection of a specific military training institute

which answers the desires and capabilities of the applicant to the greatest degree. Organizing consultations, meetings with representatives of military schools, thematic evening get-togethers--all this will contribute to making a correct decision. DOSAAF organization activists, military instructors, army and navy veterans, and local press, radio and TV organs can provide quite a bit of help in this important work.

Complicated and crucial tasks are being placed on the admission committees of military training institutes. The most experienced commanders, political workers and instructors must be included in their composition. In reviewing the submitted documents and reporting to the chief of the school their reasons regarding the advisability of permitting this or that candidate to take the entrance examinations, the members of the admission committees are required to show maximum objectivity and party principles.

It is necessary to do everything to create a business-like and benevolent situation when taking the examinations. In analyzing their results, comparing the results demonstrated by the candidates, and making a decision on enrolling in the school or sending back school leavers, the commissions are required to be strictly and unswervingly guided by the admission rules for military training institutes of the USSR Ministry of Defense.

Filling up military schools with new replacements is a task of great importance. It is necessary to perform this work so that the best representatives of Soviet youth--worthy successors to the combat glory of older generations and capable of honorably carrying the high rank of a Soviet officer throughout all his life--are in the ranks of the cadets.

8802

CSO: 1801

IMPROVEMENTS IN TROOP LIVING CONDITIONS IN LENINGRAD NOTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Mar 78 p 4

[Article by Maj Gen N. Goncharov, first deputy chief of the political directorate of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District: "Making Military Camps Better"]

[Text] Unremitting attention toward the physical living conditions of the troops is one of the objective conformities to law of Soviet military construction. It is caused by the social and political structure of our society, by the growth in the complexity and volume of tasks being solved by the armed forces, by the dialectic interrelationship of the moral and political state of personnel, and by the degree of satisfaction of their material and spiritual needs.

When considering these propositions which were emphasized more than once during the all-army conference to improve troop living conditions, the military council, commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District are discussing a further improvement in the material and medical support and cultural services of the troops as one of the most important conditions for high combat readiness. They are seeing to it that these questions are solved in a timely and composite manner and at a modern-day level.

Today every other garrison in the district answers all the requirements for the organization of public services and amenities and military esthetics. Much has been done to improve the feeding of troops, including under field conditions. Messhalls and tea rooms have modern equipment, the training level of cooks has noticeably increased, and kitchen gardens have been developed further. The external appearance of servicemen has improved. The appearance of personal service shops for soldiers in garrisons and the rehabilitation of company storerooms, service rooms and drying rooms in the majority of units have contributed to this. Barracks are being transformed. Now all personnel have been provided with bed-side rugs, slippers and foot wrappings. More than 90 percent of the medical stations in the district completely answer the requirements placed on them and conditions have been created for incorporating the latest achievements of medical science and technology into the medical diagnostic process.

The work of officer clubs, clubs, libraries and sport complexes is continually being improved. All Leninist rooms and the majority of soldier and student tea rooms are provided with televisions, newspapers, magazines, and table games.

Based on the results of the all-army inspection competition for the best troop administration and the best medical institution and commercial and service enterprise, seven of the district's troop units, enterprises and institutions earned prize positions and eight were awarded certificates. Among the winners was the regiment where Lt Col Yu. Tsoy is the deputy commander for rear services, the district's military hospital, the officer cafe which A. Gusev manages, and the Leningrad united combine of everyday services. Now the efforts of the commanders and political workers and of all the community have been directed to making the achievements of these troop and work collectives the property of everyone so that normal living and rest conditions will be ensured in each of our garrisons for personnel.

Without a doubt the inspection contest which has been announced in the district and which is considered as a continuation of the all-army one will serve to spread progressive experience. All units, institutions and enterprises will also take part in it. However, that which was achieved earlier has now become the starting point for further improving the living conditions of the troops. For example, the personnel of a complete large unit, which contained the regiment which was the winner of the all-army inspection contest, assumed obligations to arrange living conditions in an exemplary manner and to make military camps - camps of high culture.

In organizing this work and in continuing the construction of cultural and service installations in military camps, we are trying to carry out completely the instructions of Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense, which were given by him during the all-army conference. In particular, he said that it is possible to have good quarters for soldiers and Leninist rooms but if the ideological, indoctrinational and cultural mass work in them is not organized in the necessary way, then the living conditions of the troops will be colorless and one-sided and will not completely satisfy the fighting men. The district's political organs and party and Komsomol organizations see in the concern for the living and rest conditions of the men one of the most important sectors of their daily activity.

There is no denying that one manager is ready to sacrifice "small things" for the sake of carrying out the plan as a whole. In construction he "drives away" meters of living space, leaving future tenants without stores and kindergartens, in trade he does not "see" the narrowness of the assortment behind the overall high level of commodity circulation. Such costs of leadership are possible only where the political organ and party organization do not occupy a fundamental position in the work of improving living conditions.

In order to completely get rid of such shortcomings the district's political directorate is devoting a lot of attention to checking the erection of

cultural and service projects. For example, the renewal of the barracks fund in the Vologodskiy garrison and the construction of the club which the subordinates of Engr Col A. Nikulin are carrying out and of a messhall in the N-skiy military camp were checked. Today a fixed timetable is being followed at all these projects.

It is especially necessary to dwell on party leadership of military trade. During the two years of the 10th Five-Year Plan its commodity circulation increased 20 percent in the district. Military customers began to be better supplied with food products, clothing and footwear and the demand for durable goods: televisions, refrigerators, washing machines, etc., is being satisfied almost completely. This was possible thanks to the accelerated development of trade's material technical base. Now resources two times greater than five years ago are being expended annually to improve it.

Political organs and party organizations show concern for the fact that trade and service enterprises are located in premises suitable for operations, that the variety of services offered by them is broadened, that goods of daily demand are supplied to garrisons on an uninterrupted basis, and that soldier and student tearooms are transformed into centers of cultural and educational work. The commissions of public control which have been created everywhere contribute to improving the operations of stores, tailor shops and messhalls.

Objects of special concern are the indoctrination of military trade personnel and the organization of the socialist competition for high effectiveness and quality in the work of those who serve fighting men and their families. For the second year in a row the collective of the military trading organization, which is a progressive one in our district and which is directed by V. Zharov, has come forward as the initiator of the all-army competition in military trade. It is good that the military trade party organization (the secretary is A. Korsikov), is supporting the workers' initiative and in disseminating progressive experience, has placed the interests of the consumer at the head of the line. This is particularly noticeable when you evaluate the military trading organization's use of the more labor intensive forms and methods for serving customers. Let us say that here, more than in other collectives, travelling sales operations are used and fairs, thematic bazaars, and sales exhibitions of culinary items are held. Trade in early vegetables, berries and fruits has grown by 10 percent during the past year. More than half of military trade organization goods are sold by the self service method.

The military trade organization has firm and effective ties with suppliers. Customer demand is studied well here. On the other hand, the commanders of units and subunits served by the military trade organization and the political organs are regularly informed about trade plans and the capabilities of trade service enterprises to carry out this or that demand arising from the garrisons. A mandatory range list of goods which must be continually for sale has now been incorporated into the stores of this military trade

organization instead of the so called range minimum. This, of course, has increased the responsibility of trade workers for satisfying customer demand.

So that people will work with such initiative and with all their heart, purposeful work by political workers and party organizations is necessary. Here, party meetings are conducted in a militant manner, all directors are included in economic training, and party enlightenment circles and communist work schools operate in trade and public eating establishments.

The all-army conference to improve troop living conditions mentioned the necessity for many commanders and political workers to change their attitude toward military trade, to delve more deeply into its problems, and to ensure the timely construction and normal operation of trade and service enterprises in military camps. Our district's military council and political organs have treated this recommendation in the most serious way.

Quite a bit has been done in the district to improve troop living conditions. Nevertheless still far from all tasks have been solved. Not all servicemen have been billeted exactly in accordance with regulation requirements. In a number of military camps there are no trade centers. Some messhalls still need to be reequipped. Service confusion is reflected in the attitude of people. At times it prevents them from performing their critical duties.

Under these conditions it is especially important to give broad wings to progressive experience and to see to the maximum use of internal management resources and the achievement of the highest results with the least expenditures as was pointed out during the December (1977) Plenum of the CC CPSU. It is necessary to spread more widely the competition for the efficiency of production and quality of work in rear area services among all those who are engaged in arranging the living conditions of the troops. In this multiplan work political organs and party and Komsomol organizations have been called upon to take a very active part along with commanders since a concern for the living conditions of the troops is a party matter linked in the most direct way to the combat readiness of units and subunits.

8802

CSO: 1801

READERS COMMENTS ON CADET'S COMPLAINTS ABOUT STRICT DISCIPLINE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Mar 78 p 4

[Article: "Discipline--the Basis for Everything"]

[Text] A letter from cadet A. Kolesnikov (Kiyev Higher Tank Engineer School imeni Marshal of the Soviet Union I. I. Yakubovskiy) was published in a previous issue of AZIMUT (26 February). The student complained about the high demands which commanders place on him and complained that he could not get used to the discipline.

Numerous comments from readers have arrived in the editorial board. Comrades N. Valiyev, N. Yefanov, P. Zavernin, M. Zinin, I. Koinov, V. Petrov, Yu. Surgustskov, G. Semenov, and many others wrote letters. Among them were students and instructors at military schools, servicemen in the reserves, workers, kolkhoz workers, and schoolboys.

Why did the fate of cadet Kolesnikov interest the readers? Because the Soviet people regard our armed forces and officers with very great love and see in them a model for performing their duty and an example of courage and military skill.

In order to master political, military and special knowledge and to develop in oneself the qualities necessary for a future officer it is necessary to devote all one's strength to the solution of these tasks from the first days of one's stay in a school. It is only possible to solve them under conditions of very strict military discipline, exemplary regulation procedures, and unquestioning subordination to commanders and chiefs. This concept passes through all the letter comments. Both those who are already studying in military schools and those who are still planning on entering them must clearly picture to themselves that discipline is the basis for everything.

Thankful from the heart

Earlier I graduated from the Kiyev Higher Tank Engineer School imeni Marshal of the Soviet Union I. I. Yakubovskiy. Some of my comrades at first doubted the correctness of the choice they had made. However, they were able to overcome that psychological barrier about which cadet Kolesnikov writes. And now, having become officers, they don't complain about it at all.

In performing service in the forces, we remember with gratitude our commanders--Capt V. Putintsev and Sr Lts N. Kurakov, I. Shelud'ko, and others. We are grateful for the high demands they imposed on us throughout our training. It contributed to the very rapid development of the qualities needed by an officer.

Lt A. Talakh

Let friends help

We discussed cadet Kolesnikov's letter throughout the platoon. We argued. The majority of us consider the decision to leave the school to be a serious mistake.

It is good that the chief of the school and the commanders talked with cadet Kolesnikov. But what position did his comrades take? Some advised one thing, some another. But it is not only advice that is needed, help is required in the matter. Then, it seems, it would be easier for Kolesnikov to overcome his doubts.

Sgt A. Kirov

Moscow Higher Command School
for Road and Engineer Troops.

Command yourself

I read Kolesnikov's letter and remembered my own cadet years, the subsequent service as an officer, and my combat friends. Many tests fell to our lot. And military discipline helped us to endure them with honor.

Of course, each officer, regardless of his position and specialty, must be able to give orders and see to their carrying out. This is not so simple. However, it is even more difficult to learn to follow orders, including those which you give yourself. You do not wish to do something? But you give an order and carry it out.

Maj A. Kol'tsov

Novaya Kakhovka

Order is necessary everywhere

I have not been a cadet but have served in the army. There I had occasion to go through a good school for life, a school for indoctrination. I now work in the Volzhskiy Automobile Plant imeni 50th Anniversary of the USSR. Our collective is outstanding and demanding. However, this exactingness does not depress me at all.

Discipline, the ability to subordinate one's interests to the common cause, is a characteristic feature of each Soviet individual, regardless of where he serves or works--in the army, in an institute, or in a plant. I would like cadet Kolesnikov to understand this. Let him know that he will meet discipline and exactingness everywhere.

Sr Sgt (Res) A. Lyalavin

Tol'yatti

Extracts from letters

Discipline is just as important for a military engineer as it is for a commander and political worker. Otherwise, how can one train and indoctrinate subordinates?

Lt Col (Res) I. Maslikhov

I and my comrades in training in the Yaroslavl' Higher Military Finance School imeni General of the Army A. V. Khrulev do not complain about the strictness and exactingness of our commanders. We will not manage in our future service without high exactingness.

Cadet V. Tret'yak

I am finishing school and will certainly go to a military school. I understand that if I am admitted, it will be difficult. However, he is not a man who is not able to overcome it

Yu. Dunevich
Student

8802

CSO: 1801

SOCIOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS OF TANK COMPANY PERSONNEL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Mar 78 p 2

[Article by Col V. Kovalev, candidate of psychological sciences, and special KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col B. Pendyur: "Ascent to Maturity." Passages in slant lines printed in bold face]

[Text] The growth in the world of socialist labor collectives in the life of our society and the communist indoctrination of Soviet people is an inescapable fact of today's activities, a fact which has received legal force through the USSR Constitution. The unswerving increase in the significance of military collectives in the daily life of the Soviet Armed Forces is also just as evident. The authors of the following article present specific ways for an integrated approach to the cohesion of military collectives. The basis for the article is research that was conducted in a tank company in one of the units [chast'] of the Belorussian Military District.

Spiritual Horizons

Several years ago, our commanders, political organs, and party organizations began to employ the formula for an integrated approach to ideological-indoctrinational work, the enormous significance of which was underscored at the 25th CPSU Congress. Since that time, broad comprehensive knowhow has been accumulated which convinces us that the way to consistent, organic unity of the tasks of political, labor, and moral indoctrination of personnel is more fruitful. This includes such an important sphere of our indoctrinational practice as the formation and cohesion of military collectives.

A cohesive collective striving toward a single goal becomes an active "viable face" in the indoctrination of the troops and assists the commander in accomplishing combat training missions with great effectiveness. From here as well stems the real necessity for broad employment of those methods and forms of political-indoctrinational work which would better facilitate the development of a mature social opinion and develop in the collective an active, mature position. The authors took such an approach in their research work.

So, the company. The Third Tank Company. The commander is Capt Vladimir Romanov, Lt Sergey Tishchenko is the secretary of the party organization, and Sgt Eduard Krivoshey is the secretary of the Komsomol organization.

Familiarizing ourselves with the company, we automatically entered into its daily joys and troubles. The life of every collective, just like that of an individual, is always interesting, primarily because of its individual, specific traits. But, in this instance, the task was where possible to more visibly "bring to light" the more typical social strokes of the collective "portrait," in more detail look within the active mechanism of the indoctrinational process. With this goal, we studied documents which reflect the daily activities of the company, we conversed with officers, sergeants, and soldiers, we made a survey using special methodology. How then is the face of the company collective drawn through the prism of generalized sociological analysis?

The first, and if you will, the most profound impression which arises today when one becomes familiar with any of our military collectives is the clearly designated traits of its spiritual and social maturity in which, undoubtedly, is reflected the maturity of the entire society as a whole and its continually growing homogeneity. In this sense, the collective "portrait" of the tankers only affirms the overall objective law. Judge for yourself. The company is made up of persons who have come from many areas of our country and who represent various nationalities, social groups, and professions. Almost 90 percent of the troops have a completed secondary education, with a quarter of them a special education which, as a rule, is linked to mechanized industrial labor. From this stems the approximately equal level of knowledge, labor skills, and spiritual aspirations. Almost all of the troops are Komsomol members. This already forms a favorable foundation for formulation of the collective's cohesion.

The analysis run on the daily plans of the company's soldiers and sergeants as well as those specific missions which they test themselves with during the period of their military service confirms the profound unanimity of the desires of the troops. They all deeply understand the sacred duty of the defenders of the socialist fatherland and a majority of the tankers want to become otlichniki and specialists with a high class rating.

A collective led by a one-man commander and cemented by communists and Komsomol members moreover facilitates more rapid realization of this desire on the part of the troops to carry out their duty in practical activities--in combat training and service. And, the broader the spiritual horizons of the collective consciousness, the more actively it exerts its influence on each soldier.

Everything that the collective does and that it lives with today /must become an example of its joint comprehension, evaluation, and experience of all members of the collective./ And, this also means that all indoctrinational work must assist the collective in developing this capability.

We will begin with how goal-oriented from the point of view of the development of this capability is the accomplishment of /political indoctrination/--one of the facets of the integrated approach. Working in the subunit [podrazdeleniye] we were able to assure ourselves that the commander and the party organization are placing a great deal of attention on the quality of political lessons. They are conducted here regularly, with a sufficiently high degree of effectiveness. The sergeants and soldiers of the Third Company since the beginning of the training year have heard lessons in the regimental club sufficiently often and have visited other regimental facilities. It should be stated that the system of political training that has been set up for the sergeants and soldiers and the ideological-indoctrinational work in all elements of the regiment facilitate ensuring the uninterrupted nature of the influence on the personnel and accomplishment of a differentiated approach, with wide employment of the enormous arsenal of agitational-propaganda resources. It facilitates it! However, these capabilities still are not being fully realized.

It is known that military traditions play a very great role in the cohesion of our military collectives. The tankers,

with deep respect and pride, look upon the front-line biography of their regiment. Memories about the heroic past are brilliantly demonstrated through displays and in the items contained in the room of combat glory and in the Lenin rooms of the subunit. Political workers are doing a great deal to support stable ties with unit veterans. This involves correspondence, trips to the locations of past battles, meetings. . .

But, talking with the personnel brought to light another distinct collective interest. "And, this was in the regiment, I might say, 30 years ago?" Moreover, the glorious biography of the regiment does not stop with the victorious year 1945--it continues in the deeds of those who followed. The people have changed, new equipment has come into the inventory, improved procedures for conducting combat have been assimilated, and the traditions of military service have been multiplied. It is unlikely that some of today's troops would be indifferent, let's say, to a display which discusses how their predecessors began to assimilate the driving of tanks along a river bottom. However, this period has not been reflected at all, either in oral or in visual agitation.

The question arises: Have we too narrow an understanding of the tasks of reinforcing and developing our military traditions? Should we not more boldly enrich them with that valuable knowhow which has been acquired on the training field through the selfless efforts of our predecessors?

Further, one of the most important missions facing indoctrinators is to achieve a high political vigilance on the part of personnel, that continual internal tension and concentration which are necessary like nothing else for a soldier. Figuratively speaking, the entire world--in all its complexities and contrasts of today's military-political situation--must be found in the field of the collective's spiritual vision and in the sphere of its moral experiences and senses.

And then, the collective "presented" us with a surprise. Given a very high level of interest in international events, it turned out that the troops did not know many specific facts that had been fully reported in the pages of the newspapers and in radio and television broadcasts during the period that the research was underway. And it is obvious that these events were not discussed in the collective with participation by the indoctrinators.

How does one explain this paradox? Returning to analysis of the party-political work in the company, we note that there is an evident lack of proficiency which corresponds to today's dynamism and the intense rhythm of the combat training life of the personnel in this very sector. Unfortunately, the indoctrinators are not using everything available to elicit an interested response from the collective to the vital events of the day.

We sometimes went to the barracks along with the company as it returned from the tank range after completion of the training day and we tried with "their eyes" to take in the active flow of information. The television receiver was inoperative due to needing repairs. The local radio network was not active. We did not see any real-life information in the displays in the Lenin room and in other areas of the company concerning that which was going on in the world today, concerning those events that filled the life of the country, those things that were interesting that had occurred in the regiment. Nor did the agitators who spent their entire day with their company at the tank range say anything about any of this. The soldiers silently looked through newspapers, played chess, and sewed clean collars inside their uniforms. But, it is so important and also so simple to turn the attention of the collective to news found in the newspaper, to do so in a timely manner, to comment on what has happened, to call forth the lively exchange of opinions.

One can only despair that we did not notice any such desire on the part of the organizers of the indoctrinational process. Even the planned political information did not have much vitality to it. It for some reason duplicated the themes of the reports concerning military indoctrination and combat training. Not a single thematic evening, oral political newspaper, a youth debate, or display has been held in the company since the start of the training year. That is, there has not occurred even such measures that greatly facilitate /the organic combination of political, labor, and moral motives/ in the conduct of the troops and which develop the activeness of the collective.

Moreover, everyone is familiar with the CC CPSU decree on improving the role of all political agitation and a number of other party documents which steadfastly emphasize the requirement for the introduction into practice of even those forms of work which are designed for a more profound, emotionally saturated assimilation of information, on formation of a stable social opinion, and the convictions of the collective.

Speaking of all of this, we in no way desire to create the impression on the part of the reader that everything is a mess as far as the organization of the political-indoctrinational work in the regiment is concerned. No, the regimental political workers are doing a great deal so that the agitational-propaganda and indoctrinational work in the unit is conducted effectively and in full force. The problem lies in the fact that its individual elements have been significantly weakened. In particular, at the company level. But, the stability of the entire chain depends on these links. Careful congruity of indoctrinational efforts and their uninterrupted nature is an important requirement of the integrated approach to the formation of collective cohesion.

The Fusion of Forces

The formation of ideological conviction and the political maturity of a military collective is only one of the facets of the integrated approach to its cohesion. It is closely linked with two others--the direct participation of the collective in labor (troop) and moral indoctrination of personnel.

The documents of the 25th CPSU Congress set forth one of the vital tasks of indoctrinational work--formation of an active, vital position of personality. Here, undoubtedly, a great deal of significance falls to a cohesive, mature collective which, during its activities which are skillfully directed by the commander, aids the soldier to fully discover and develop his personal qualities and work out a highly conscious active approach to military labor. Such a role for the collective is clearly and convincingly manifested in the sphere of competition.

In the Lenin room of the tank company which we are discussing, one of the largest stands draws attention not due to the brilliance of the colors, not to the layout, but by its special impressive visual depiction of the real and dynamic reflection of the goals and results of the troops' competition. Proficiently reflected here are the results of the combat and political training for the past month, week, and training day, with the names of those who excelled at the lessons and of the best specialists in the company listed. In a word, this is also a screen on which are reflected the dynamics of the competition and, at the same time, it is one of the directing channels via which the commander exerts his influence on those who are competing.

If you are to judge by what you have seen, that efficiency and innovation on the part of the competition organizers already deserves praise. But we also must explain to what degree this impressive picture, reflected in visual agitation, corresponds to the internal actual state of the military collective, how close it is to the real perceptions which those competing are experiencing. And, do the troops of the company get a chance to gaze at this display, is the success or failure in training on the part of each individual becoming an example of the overall, interested, and demanding attention?

The following experiment was run in the company. Each soldier and sergeant was tasked to evaluate the quality--his own and that of his cohorts--on a number of features which characterize the level of the political and military-technical knowledge and skills, the degree of field training, perseverance, discipline, and social activeness. When the results of the survey were analyzed, one cannot help but marvel at the high degree of objectivity and, along with that, respect for the experience, knowledge, and capabilities with which the collective judged each of its members.

It should be noted that, along with this survey, Capt V. Romanov, the company commander, was also tasked using the same system of features to evaluate the quality of his subordinates: in more than 90 percent of the cases, the opinions of the commander and of the collective completely coincided. We point out for comparison that, in a number of other subunits where similar research was conducted, the congruity of evaluations did not exceed 60-70 percent and in some cases was even less.

The picture of the mutual evaluations of the troops in the company is expressed in the following manner. Approximately one-third of the personnel are recognized as masters of military affairs and their names were concentrated at one level. Approximately the same percentage of the collective is made up of those who received the lowest evaluations of personality traits.

One would think that such a polarization of evaluations in any collective is natural, moreover there will not be in one collective people of completely identical capabilities, experience, and knowledge. But, in this instance it is important for us to emphasize something else: the commander and the entire collective completely, objectively evaluate successes and realistically and soberly weigh the capabilities

of each troop in combat training. It is in this very fact that one sees one of the vital confirmations of the collective's cohesion, primarily that facet which reflects a highly conscientious /attitude on the part of the troops to military labor./ But, let's face it, it sometimes happens this way. The group of otlichniks sometimes includes people whose real qualities do not affirm such a high rank. A reason for this is the fact that some officers have a superficial knowledge of their subordinates and sometimes have the frank desire to "inflate" that percentage in order to receive an overall favorable score. A similar manifestation are various simplifications and indulgences which ease the access for the entire subunit to reach the excellent level. This affects the formation of peoples' vital position in an extremely negative way, not to mention the fact that similar practice is completely unacceptable from all other points of view. Inflated "authorities" destroy the collective representation of the "scale" of moral values and realistic ways to achieve success and confirm an atmosphere of formalism. Naturally, it is difficult in such a situation to discuss the unity of the elements of the integrated approach to collective cohesion. For this very reason, therefore, a principled position on the part of the commander, political workers, and party organizations of the subunits in the evaluation of the results of the collective's activities is so important.

The results of the research conducted in the tank company confirm the diligent and well-established organization of socialist competition, which is very important also from the point of view of strengthening the cohesion of the collective. The high incandescence of competition in combat training is only possible in those instances when the forces of the competitors are approximately equal and when they can clearly "see" each others successes and strive for mutual struggle. And the analysis that we have conducted on the system of mutual ties among the troops of the company in the competition process confirms that, in 9 cases out of 10, it corresponds to optimal requirements. And we again note that the research conducted in several other collectives does not produce such a high indicator. Moreover, there are many instances when the competing troops whose names are "emblazoned" on the colorful displays in actuality do not support any type of mutual contacts and are not interested in each other's successes.

The individual competition in the tank company has, as a rule, a friendly nature and is unfolded between specialists in identical fields and training levels. The pairs of competitors are selected in such a way that it permits the

development of competition between crews and platoons. This provides the capability for optimal combination of individual and collective pledges of the troops.

/The system of individual mutual assistance/ in the company has a different character. Clearly demonstrated here are the firm contacts between "levels" which separate the best prepared and the least prepared troops. These ties are extraordinarily important for it is these ties that support the dissemination of the knowhow from combat work, rally the collective and guarantee the bringing to fruition of the principle "not a single lagger amongst us!"

During the period when the individual and collective pledges for the on-going training year are being elaborated, the commander, party organization, and Komsomol activists exerted a great deal of effort and time to teach each new arrival in the subunit to take into consideration his capabilities, inclinations, and desires. Today, every troop in the company with great interest monitors how his direct "rival" as well as the remaining men in the outfit are fulfilling their pledges and follow what chances for victory the tank crews and platoons have.

It should be pointed out that such a serious approach to the organization of competition is also experienced in the regiment at all levels. Due to the corresponding organizational activeness they approached the slogan from the All-Army Competition in a friendly manner--"Reliably defend the socialist fatherland, be in constant combat readiness, steadfastly assimilate weapons and equipment, improve combat mastery." Moreover, work devoted to the development of initiative and the patriotic enthusiasm of personnel has a growing nature. Looking to the letter of the CC CPSU, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and CC Komsomol concerning the unfolding of socialist competition in 1978, many practical measures have been developed in the regiment. Suffice it to say that the party committee specially examined the question of improving the methodology of summing up competition at all levels. Now, every commander has recommendations logged on special paper which show the sequence to follow when making an analysis and which positions must be evaluated to determine the results of the competition. Objectivity, accuracy, and the comprehensive nature of the evaluation of the labor of those competing and the motives for their training activeness are a vital indoctrinational factor.

The Moral Atmosphere

Guidance of a military collective is a continuous and creative process. In order to understand its complexity, it is sufficient to understand what a profound reorganization in the entire system occurs in the collective every time the new reinforcements come into the subunit to replace those individuals released into the reserve. The structure of the mutual ties that have been formed changes and a complex "polishing" of characters which is replete with often invisible tension begins, as does the establishment of new contacts. Yes, and under normal conditions, the moral climate of the collective which makes up a third facet of our analysis needs uninterrupted, regulatory influences on the part of the commander, political worker, and party organization.

The concepts "moral atmosphere" and "moral climate" have now widely entered our practical lexicon. The requirements for them are found in the documents of the party congresses. These requirements include a respectful and concerned approach to the individual, honesty, demandingness upon oneself and upon others, trust in combination with strict responsibility, and the spirit of real comradeship. These traits determine today the moral climate of our military collectives also.

A vivid example of this is the moral atmosphere in the Third Tank Company. Analysis of the inner-collective relationships which join the troops of the company based on the feature of personal friendly contacts indicated that the lines of these ties encompass the entire collective with a dense network. Each soldier and sergeant in the company maintains continual friendly relations with three of his cohorts. By the way, this is only an average figure. Clearly delineated in the system of these relationships are the nodes of greatest "attractions" and weakening ties are evident opposite the names of individual troops. Naturally, amongst the latter, one most often finds the young soldiers who have still not completely adapted to their new collective. How does the moral climate influence the character of the inner-collective relationships?

People with different life experiences, different characters, and different inclinations are joined together in the tank company just as in any other collective. However, the collective will (its formation as we have already emphasized is an example of special concern on the part of the commander and the party organization) manifests itself here in a sufficiently wise and careful manner so as not to "soften," not

to suppress these different characteristics, to provide the capability for people to reveal themselves, to demonstrate their best traits, to polish them to a brilliance in mutual society. This very collective will corresponding to regulatory norms is also sufficiently firm so as not to permit these characteristics to clash in mutual competition and in fruitless vain attempts to blind others with their "brilliance."

It goes without saying that minor disagreements between soldiers sometimes arise in this company as well. However, these disagreements do not grow into a conflict situation. Sergeants and Komsomol activists strictly react to the most insignificant incident. And, any deviation from the regulations and from the moral norms generally accepted within the collective rapidly are publicized through collective discussion.

The research conducted in the company with full determination affirms the strength of its moral health. One of its most important sources is the high authority of the aktiv, which functions as a stable nucleus of the entire system of interpersonal relations among the troops. The commander finds stable indoctrinational support within the collective. The indicators of the authority of the activists is 1 1/2 times higher than that of the remaining soldiers and sergeants. More than twice as often, people come to them for assistance and advice in the solution of urgent social and personal matters. Most of the activists are not only skilled organizers of social work but also knowledgeable in military affairs. Their opinion is listened to and all the troops of the company look to them as the example. Here is a characteristic fact. When the company personnel were called upon to name the best troops, activists received up to 80 percent of the total number of positive votes and one-fourth of them went to Sr Sgt Anatoliy Sudak, excellent tank commander, member of the Komsomol buro, and editor of the wall newspaper.

This would be a good place to note that several officers have taken a relatively simplified approach to the creation and indoctrination of the company aktiv. The authority of people in the collective is often determined by the number of internal features, they exhibit haste, and denigrate the opinion of others. Such an approach sometimes is relatively constant and can hold back the process of collective cohesion. As we see, the mechanism for formation of a favorable moral climate collective is far from simple. Its sources are deeply imbedded in the soil of the overall collective interests understood from a position of high citizenship and dedication to duty.

This means that the formation of the moral climate also cannot be looked upon as a pedagogical task that is a goal in itself, one that is diverse from the main trends in the activities of the collective in training, service, social work, from the formation of the overall structure of the inner-collective relationships. In other words, it must be solved in an integrated manner, as one of the facets of a unified indoctrinational process.

* * *

Concluding this sketch, we return to the beginning of our conversation. It is a pleasure to recognize that the party demand concerning introduction of the integrated approach to ideological-indoctrinational work is finding more and more embodiment in the practical activities of commanders, political organs, and party organizations. And, this research convincingly demonstrated the growing pedagogical skill of officer-indoctrinators, communists who were able in a relatively short period to create politically mature, disciplined, highly moral military collectives capable of harmoniously accomplishing training missions. Even though not all of their work has been completed, even though not everything has been assimilated to the requisite degree, the main thing is that the indoctrinational process here is replete with intense, realistic creative labor. And, such an approach to business, such a work style is the best guarantee of future successes.

After this sketch was written, we with satisfaction learned that the Third Tank Company won first place in the regiment based on the results of the socialist competition dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Armed Forces. A crimson flag was raised in honor of the victories in front of the formation of tankers on the drill field. It was raised in honor of a combat collective whose political and moral maturity and internal cohesion assisted in the achievement of this labor victory.

7869

CSO: 1801

SHORTCOMINGS NOTED IN MASS SPORTS PROGRAM IN AVIATION SCHOOL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Mar 78 p 4

[Article by Col. I. Maksimov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, Red Banner Volga Military District: "A Prisoner of 'Objective' Reasons"]

[Text] For more than a year or two critical comments addressed to some military schools including aviation ones, have been heard during meetings where the state of massed sports work in the district is discussed. There is more than sufficient grounds for reproaches.

In aviation training subunits there are shortcomings in the training of VSK [Military Sports Series] badgeholders and sportsmen with the highest ratings. The improvement of the sports base is being made slowly. This restrains the organization and conduct of mass measures. The results of the district's combined teams in aviation-type sports during army-wide competitions leaves much to be desired. For example, whereas in 1976 aviator sportsmen contributed 800 record points to the "money box", last year it was only 156.

All these shortcomings are also characteristic of the Orenburg Higher Military Aviation School for Fliers imeni I.S. Polbin. During the past year the school was among the bottom ones in the district's inspection of sports work in military training institutions.

In the department of physical training and sports, which we visited, they immediately quoted those indicators which could brighten the mediocre picture somewhat. Senior instructor Vladimir Georgiyevich Khotenov did not fail to mention, in particular, the successes of the gymnasts and swimmers who displayed good and steady results.

However, these successes, unfortunately, are isolated. Moreover, it is difficult to count on them being corroborated next year: three individuals trained under the direction of Lt S. Nikitin in the gymnastic section, two of them are students in the graduating class. They will leave the school and it is possible to think that there will be no one to defend the sports honor of the aviators in gymnast competitions. Cadet N. Neofitov, the best swimmer, a candidate for master of sports and the district champion in 1976 also is in the graduating class. There is no replacement for him.

There was a time when the school's representatives shone in competitions on air force sports. In 1971 the Orenburg team earned the USSR Cup and the next year Capt A. Nikolayenko became the country's supreme champion. However, since then the aviation sportsmen have not made their admirers happy with high achievements.

It is strange--but the impression is created that they were resigned to this situation in the school. They explained the shortcomings in mass sports work by the peculiarities of air force service. Both in the flight training section and the physical training and sports department they told us about the strenuousness of the process of forming future fliers and about how complicated it is to find time during flying days to give students an opportunity to engage in sports. V. Khotenov quite definitely said in this regard: "When flying takes place, no one engages in sports."

Undoubtedly, the peculiarities of service leave their imprint on the life and living conditions of the aviators. The period of flights is the most strenuous time in aviation garrisons. However, not everyone flies at once and they don't fly for complete days. Preflight training and rest are provided for. It is possible to cite a great number of examples of how commanders who are concerned about the physical training of subordinates find time even under such complicated conditions for classes and training sessions in the sports area. Here, in the peculiarities of service they only seek to justify a cool--to put it mildly--attitude toward sports. Lt Col V. Zakharov, the district's chief of physical training and sports debunks these assertions without difficulty.

"References to the peculiarities of service are groundless. In not one of the documents regulating mass sports work is there an allusion to the fact that aviators are placed in a special situation. At times, they place themselves into such a situation. It is simply that they look upon sports as a secondary matter in the Orenburg school...."

The experienced specialist is completely correct. We see aviation schools among the prize winners in reviews of sports work. Do they have a different, a more "obliging" distinctive feature? No such thing. Because many fly, they experience the same difficulties. However, since the development of aviation places ever-increasing demands on the physical training of fliers, they use every opportunity in these schools so that the young lieutenants will move on to units as strong, dexterous and hardened individuals and so that they will be physically and morally ready to perform the most complex tasks. The Balashov Higher Military Aviation School for Fliers imeni Chief Marshal of Aviation A. A. Novikov is in the same situation as the Orenburg one. It seemed that the results of its participation in the review would be the same as that received by the Orenburg people. However, in this school they did not begin to look for references to "objective" reasons, but started to work heartily and with enthusiasm. The sports committee considerably intensified its work and the school's command element, political section and party committee provided every possible help. And success came--fifth place among the district's VUZ.

The people of Orenburg did not display the same activity. The sports committee relied on the department but the department was basically busy with carrying out the physical training program. Moreover, the organizational work in this collective of teachers had been relaxed for some time....

As a result even last year's results were not passed on to the personnel. Lessons had not been drawn from failures. In the department they were not even able to name the masters of sports, candidates for master and first-class sportsmen. It does not have this data available. I was informed in the district's combat training section that only 10 points had been given to the school during the past year for the training of masters of sports, candidates for master and republic level referees. The Saratov Higher Military Command School imeni Hero of the Soviet Union Maj Gen A . I. Lizyukov and the Kazan Higher Military Engineer School collected 355 and 380 points, respectively. As they say, no explanation is needed.

In a word, there are grounds for alarm. However, one cannot say that they are alarmed about the state of mass sports work here. The reason is as before: Why draw up plans if intensive flying will soon begin and on those days, as has been accepted there, they do not think about sports.

8802

CSO: 1801

USE OF TRAINING FILMS FOR LEGAL INDOCTRINATION OF SERVICEMEN DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Mar 78 p 2

[Article by Col Justice S. Morozov, Lt Col Justice A. Khalin, and Lt Col Justice N. Vishnevskiy: "A Discussion Near the Screen"]

[Text] It is not necessary to say much about the importance of films today. Successful films enrich us with knowledge and contribute to a better understanding of reality. In them we find examples, worthy imitations and lessons on important conduct. They inculcate ideological conviction and methods of thinking and feeling.

Each film production, even those not touching upon legal questions but raising questions on the interrelationship of man and society and morals, solves legal educational tasks in any event. All of human life flows within the limits of certain moral and legal norms. These norms in our society are closely interrelated just as the interests of an individual man and society as a whole are interrelated.

At the same time quite a few films directly connected with the problem of improving law and order and socialist law have been made by Soviet cinematographers. There are also artistic films--such as "Without the Right to a Mistake", "The Three Days of Viktor Chernyshev", "The Very Last Day" and the works of popular-scientific and documentary cinematography--the films "Before the Court", "There Cannot be a Crime", "Up to Sixteen...." A number of interesting pictures on moral and legal subjects have been released during recent years by the USSR Ministry of Defense film studio. The films "Once at Night", "A Bitter Lesson", "The Case Will Be Heard", "The Same as I", and "What Is the Price of Vodka?" enjoy the greatest popularity among military viewers.

Today, quite a bit of experience in this work has been accumulated in the forces. Film lectures, viewer conferences and topical movie evening get-togethers are held in officer and other clubs. Week-long and ten-day showings of films on moral and legal topics have received broad dissemination. Recently, for example, a legal knowledge week, devoted to the new Constitu-

tion of the USSR took place in the N-skiy garrison of the Pacific Ocean Fleet. A number of films were shown during it. This contributed to the military seamen's deeper understanding of the constitutional duty to defend the socialist homeland and of the other propositions in the fundamental law.

... The topical evening get-together. "The Strength of Soviet Fighting Men Is in Troop Comradeship and Friendship," lasted for about two hours but the attention of those present in the hall of the fighting men did not lessen for a minute. The organizers of an evening get-together in one of the units of the Belorussian Military District addressed not only the consciousness of the people but were also able to touch their deep feelings. They created a touching and emotional situation. Right after the opening address of Maj V. Lepko, the political worker, a portion of the movie "Pvt Aleksandr Matrosov" was shown. Next, Lt Col (Res) G. Olenin, a participant in the Great Patriotic War and a brother soldier of the hero, spoke to the servicemen. Parts of the movies, "Strong in Soldierly Friendship" and "The Same as I" were accompanied by presentations by veterans of the unit, young soldiers, Col Justice G. Korenev, and other comrades. In this regard--and what is very important--they did not try here--as still happens--to replace the detailed reasoning of the speakers with a showing of films but only backed it up with clear examples and illustrated what had been said.

We are talking about this in such detail because, unfortunately, films are still not used everywhere correctly from an instructional methods viewpoint. The effectiveness of their indoctrinational effect is undoubtedly lowered if films are shown which have no connection to the subject of the measure. Let us say a lecture is being given to the fighting men on Soviet military law but the film, "Rural Detective" which you will agree has not the slightest relationship to military law, is shown. Very often legal propagandists manage entirely without using film materials. For example, it happened this way in the N-skiy unit of the Baltic Military District while organizing measures directed against drunkenness and car accidents. Officer Ye. Kanatayev, the political worker, didn't see anything at all wrong in this.

And, of course, he was mistaken. A thoughtful propagandist never neglects the opportunities which films offer him. By influencing the feelings, emotions and intellect, they almost always make a deep impression on viewers. True, the direction of the impression can be quite different. However, this only points to the need for a propagandist to make timely comments on what has been seen on the screen, and reveal the moral concept in this or that episode and the relationship of law to it. It is no less important to provide the viewers themselves with an opportunity to express their opinion about the film.

One of us had occasion to be in the unit club which WO (praporshchik) A. Aduyev directs when the film, "He is Accused of Murder", was being discussed there. Deviating somewhat from the plot of the picture, the soldiers and sergeants talked more about the harm caused by drunkenness. The film

permitted one to see how alcohol destroys the action of self-control "mechanisms": shame, conscience, and the estimation of the social significance of one's actions. The nature of the so-called "obliteration" of personality under the influence of regular intoxication became clear. It is also characteristic that during the public debate each one received an opportunity to firm up one's own vital position and one's own attitude toward a number of negative phenomena which beget criminal conduct in an individual. Criticism addressed to individual servicemen who neglected their duties was heard in the club.

Experience shows that these measures are conducted best where they are organized not on a hit or miss basis but where they are based on a system and are conducted according to a plan and where experienced political workers, military lawyers, medical personnel, VAI [Military Automobile Inspectorate] workers, and other specialists participate. Of course, an interest in this job is also necessary on the part of commanders for whom the legal indoctrination of subordinates is, as is known, a duty prescribed in regulations.

Alas, the interest of some comrades is clearly not enough. That is why it is necessary to listen quite frequently to an explanation of why movie evening get-togethers on legal topics are still seldom conducted and complaints on... the lack of the necessary films. Did the comrades turn completely to the film center?! In the words of I. Kovalev, the chief of the Moscow Military District training film center, films on moral and legal subjects are simply not planned by units. The training film center workers often must themselves make necessary corrections in the monthly requests. In one of the district's units Officer Ya. Dozor completely turned over the planning for showing films to the projectionist, Jr. Sgt. S. Bogatyrev. Should one be surprised, therefore, that in the unit not a single visible measure using training film material was held for a long time?

Using a film skillfully and in a planned manner to publicize legal knowledge and to indoctrinate a socialist legal awareness in the fighting men--this means to use substantial reserves to improve this important work further.

8802

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INSTRUCTOR GUIDE FOR INDOCTRINATION ON IMPERIALIST ARMIES

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 7, Apr 78 signed to press 21 Mar 78 pp 75-84

[Article by Capt 1st Rank V. Yakovlev: "Armed Forces of the Imperialist Nations. Aggressive Imperialist Military Blocs -- a Threat to Peace and the Security of Peoples"]

[Text] Six hours are allocated to study of this topic. It is advisable to distribute this time as follows: 2 hours on lecture, 2 hours on independent preparation, and 2 hours on seminar (discussion).

The following items must be covered in the lecture: 1. The nature, aims and function of imperialist armed forces; 2. Description of the armed forces of the principal imperialist nations; 3. Aggressive military blocs of contemporary imperialism.

It is important to emphasize in a brief introduction that imperialism is a constant source of military threat. The aggressive policies of the imperialist powers are engendered by an unrestrained striving by the monopoly bourgeoisie toward profit, world economic and political domination, hatred of the Soviet Union and the entire world socialist system. Armed Forces constitute the main instrument of the imperialists in carrying out their aggressive plans.

The bourgeoisie seeks to conceal the class essence of the imperialist armed forces. It declares them to be "outside of politics" and calls them an instrument of a "general national character." This is a gross lie. In actual fact the armed forces of the imperialist state have been and remain an instrument of the policy of the wealthy bourgeoisie, have defended and continue to defend by force of arms the interests of the exploiters both at home and abroad, and prop up with bayonets the system of man's class oppression of man, a system which has long since outlived its time.

As is noted in the message of greeting from the CPSU Central Committee, Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and USSR Council of Ministers to the fighting men of the valiant Armed Forces of the Soviet Union on the occasion of their 60th anniversary, "there are active forces in existence in the world

which are attempting to thwart the process of détente, which are escalating the arms race, which are creating new kinds of death-dealing weapons, and which are strengthening aggressive blocs. Under these conditions the Communist Party and the Soviet Government are devoting constant attention to the cause of strengthening the nation's defense capability and are concerned to ensure that our glorious Armed Forces have at their disposal everything necessary for carrying out their assigned missions."

1. The Nature, Goals and Function of Imperialist Armies.

Describing the army of the imperialist state, V. I. Lenin stated that it "is the most rigid instrument of support of the old system, the most hardened bulwark of bourgeois discipline, support of the domination of capital, preservation and instillment of slavish obedience and subordination of the toilers" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Works], Vol 37, page 295).

In capitalist countries there exist profound conflicts between the people and the military, and within the military proper -- between the rank and file and the officer corps, conflicts engendered by the fact that the interests of the exploiters and the toilers are implacably diametrically opposed. The bourgeoisie makes every effort to isolate military personnel from the people, to dull their consciousness with cruel, deadening drill and stupefying brainwashing.

Harsh oppressive measures are employed in order to combat the penetration of progressive ideas into the military and to crush the slightest freedom of thought. The military command keeps vigilant watch over the political mood of military personnel, makes every effort to spot "dissidents" and punishes them in the most ruthless fashion.

In the postwar years many armies of imperialist nations began to be supplied with manpower on a professional basis -- by hired mercenaries. In the view of ruling circles such a mercenary force corresponds to the highest degree to the goals of conduct of imperialist foreign and antipopular domestic policy. Separated for an extended period of time from the direct influence of the toiling people, isolated in their barracks, and subjected to comprehensive brainwashing in the spirit of the stereotypes of bourgeois propaganda, professional soldiers and sailors constitute genuine mercenaries of capital in its struggle against the toilers and all forces of progress. They also participate with equal zeal in armed reprisals against the toilers and ethnic minorities at home and in various adventures and aggressive wars abroad.

That situation which exists in the bourgeois society as a whole is reflected in the internal life of the bourgeois military as in a mirror. Drug addiction, alcoholism, crime, racial friction, conflicts on the job, ruthless crushing of dissent, and other vices of the exploiter society are also fully characteristic of its army.

The officer corps is the main support and implementer in the military of the policy of the ruling classes. The absolute majority of officers are representatives of the bourgeoisie and on the whole constitute the most reactionary segment of capitalist armies. The existing system of selection and training of officer cadres constitutes one of the effective means of maintaining a caste system in the officer corps of these armies. In the United States, for example, the personal recommendation of the President, Vice-President or a Congressman is required to enroll in a service school. Sometimes a few individuals from the nonpropertied strata make their way into the officer corps of capitalist armies, such as when candidates for service school are selected from noncommissioned officers. But their career as a rule does not climb higher than junior officer ranks. They are not permitted to enter the military "elite," who occupy key positions in the armed forces.

In capitalist countries the officer corps is closely linked to military business. The military ministry ensures that the military-industrial monopolies receive profitable military contracts. The monopolies in turn give high-paid jobs upon discharge to officers and general officers who have collaborated with them. The military-industrial complex which has risen from this alliance quite often exerts decisive influence on the determination of government policy. This is one of the root causes of escalation of the arms race in the capitalist countries.

The armies of imperialist countries perform two basic functions: internal and external. The internal function consists in using military force to crush domestic revolutionary toiler manifestations and their struggle for their rights and for improved living conditions. Monopoly capital is particularly vigilant about maintaining its political domination and maintains in a state of constant readiness all the instruments of power, including the military. To quote V. I. Lenin, a regular army in the bourgeois nations "everywhere became the instrument of reaction, the servant of capital in the struggle against labor, the hangman of the people's freedom" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch.," Vol 12, page 113).

For example, just in the period 1967-1972 the U.S. Army has been called upon approximately 300 times to put down so-called "domestic disorders." During this period more than 230,000 officers and men took part in operations against the people. Carrying out the will of their monopolist bosses, American soldiers murdered strugglers for civil rights in Los Angeles, shot demonstrating students at Kent State University in Ohio, and wreaked bloody violence against students in Illinois, Louisiana, and California. In Washington, Detroit, and Chicago they dispersed with bayonets and poison gases participants in rallies protesting the war in Vietnam, and they functioned as strike-breakers during strikes by longshoremen, postal workers, railroaders, and coal miners.

The armies of other imperialist nations also perform the role of punitive detachments. For more than 8 years now British troops have been waging a real war against fighters for freedom and civil rights in Northern Ireland. Approximately 1,800 persons have been killed as victims of the armed brigandage of the British soldiers, including elderly people and children.

In the FRG, on the basis of the 1968 "emergency laws," the Bundeswehr is empowered to make "arrests without the authorization of the prosecutor's office," "to prohibit and crush political strikes," "forced resettlement," etc. This applies only to persons acting against imperialist oppression, supporting progressive views. As regards former Nazi criminals, for example, the western press reports that 78,000 of them are completely at liberty in West Germany, and their freedom is threatened in no way.

In Japan participation by troops in putting down toilers by force of arms is viewed by the law on the "self-defense forces" as performance of a military mission. Special instructions recommend that even tanks and armored cars be employed against "insurgents."

Imperialist ruling circles deal particularly ruthlessly with demonstrations of an antiimperialist, revolutionary nature. We all know what barbaric methods are used by the Chilean junta against fighters for freedom. It does this with the full approval and support of the principal imperialist powers, and the United States in particular. The military in the South African Republic perpetrates monstrous crimes. Still fresh in one's memory are the events of the summer of 1976, when a peaceful demonstration of 10,000 school-children and students, protesting racial discrimination in education, was put down by the bullets of the military in the town of Soweto. Employment of military subunits to put down demonstrations by that country's native population has become a regular practice on the part of the racists of South Africa.

Employment of armed forces against the toilers is a law of life in the capitalist exploiter society. It is specified in military regulations, field manuals, instructions, and various secret agreements within the framework of the military-political blocs of the imperialist nations, and the aggressive NATO bloc in particular.

Armed forces personnel in the imperialist countries undergo special training; they are taught methods of violent reprisal against their own people. There exists in the Pentagon, for example, a special center for coordination of operations to combat civil disturbances. This is the main command post directing military punitive operations. The other NATO armies have similar centers, schools and field training facilities.

Command cadres of bourgeois armies are authorized independently to make the decision to open fire on a crowd when "putting down rioters." They are required to take all measures to ensure that "effective fire is delivered," to ensure that fire is delivered particularly on "demonstration leaders and active participants," that "blank cartridges are not to be used," etc.

The external function of capitalist armies is directed toward oppressing the peoples of other countries. The predatory policy of capitalism is implemented by means of military force, the instrument of which is the army. The external function consists in waging aggressive wars against other countries for the purpose of dividing the world, seizing new sources of raw materials, markets and spheres of application of capital. The focal point of the external military aggression of imperialism is directed against the countries of the socialist community, the Soviet Union in particular, as well as against the peaceful national liberation movement.

One cannot forget that disgraceful role played by the imperialists and their armed forces in the struggle against the young Soviet Republic. Immediately following the victorious Great October Revolution, the imperialists of the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Japan and other powers embarked upon the role, as V. I. Lenin put it, of butchers and gendarmes to crush Russian liberty. Acting in concert with Russian counterrevolutionaries, they attempted to strangle our revolution, to deprive the toilers of their historic gains, to loot our nation of its wealth. Following the civil war and defeat of the Russian counterrevolution and foreign military intervention, international imperialism did everything it could to undermine our nation and to crush the Soviet Union.

International imperialism placed particular hopes on fascist Germany and militarist Japan. World reaction views them as their own striking force in the struggle against socialism. In a struggle to the death with a powerful and insidious foe, during the years of the Great Patriotic War the Soviet people, under the guidance of the Leninist Party, succeeded not only in defending their socialist gains but also made a decisive contribution to the cause of liberation of the peoples of Europe from fascist enslavement, and saved world civilization. Thus they honorably carried out their international duty to all mankind.

Today international imperialism is planning new military adventures against peace-seeking peoples. As is attested by data gathered by the U.S. Brookings Institution, in the postwar years the United States has resorted on at least 215 occasions to utilization of military forces to support its foreign policy actions, while in 33 situations U.S. leaders have threatened to employ nuclear weapons.

In the postwar years imperialism has actively intervened in the internal affairs of young nations which have gained their independence, has organized antigovernment actions by reactionary, proimperialist elements, and has carried out acts of military aggression with the aim of toppling progressive governments. Imperialism caused the lengthy crisis in the Congo (1961-1964), the conflict between two ethnic communities on Cyprus (1963), a coup in Ghana (1966), Indonesia (1965), a fascist coup in Chile (1973), has undertaken military aggression in Korea (1950-1953), in Indochina, Angola, and the Near East, and provoked the Somali-Ethiopian conflict.

Thanks to the consistent struggle on the part of the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community as well as all progressive forces for lasting peace and friendship among peoples, for affirmation of the principles of peaceful coexistence between nations with differing social systems, certain positive changes have taken place in the world in the direction of international détente. However, as was noted by the 25th CPSU Congress, "although imperialism's potential for aggressive actions has now been significantly diminished, its nature remains unchanged. Therefore peace-seeking forces must display a high degree of vigilance" ("Materialy XXV s"yezda KPSS" [Proceedings of the 25th CPSU Congress], page 24).

Our party and its Central Committee are fully aware of the present distribution of forces in the world arena and soberly assess the capabilities of the reactionary forces of imperialism and their unceasing attempts to turn back the wheel of history, to return the world to the times of "cold war." Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated at the October (1976) CPSU Central Committee Plenum: "It is our duty to the people to continue maintaining this country's Armed Forces at a high level, to ensure that Soviet fighting men are at all times equipped with the most modern weapons, a fact which the imperialists must take into consideration, and we shall faithfully carry out this duty!"

2. Description of the Armed Forces of the Principal Imperialist Nations

Proceeding to the second item, the propagandist emphasizes description of the armed forces of U.S. imperialism.

U.S. Armed Forces. The United States maintains the largest armed forces in the capitalist world, equipped with all types of modern weapons. They possess all the most advanced means of delivering these weapons to the target (missiles of various designation, aircraft, submarines and surface ships). The United States currently possesses a total of 2,083 intercontinental ballistic missiles and missiles fired from submarines and bombers.

The U.S. regular armed forces presently total 2.13 million men. Every year many billions of dollars are spent on the armed forces. The current military budget, for the 1978 fiscal year, totals 116.8 billion dollars, while the budget for 1979 specifies a total of 128.4 billion dollars. U.S. Defense Secretary Brown stated that the Pentagon is planning a sharp increase in its budget -- from 116.8 billion dollars this year to 172.7 billion in the 1983 fiscal year. Considerable attention is focused on weapons modernization, improvement in the organizational structure of forces, and particularly development of new, more destructive offensive weapons. The Pentagon is developing six types of cruise missiles for the Air Force, Navy and Army. The new MX intercontinental missile is being developed, which will carry from 8 to 10 independently targeted warheads, as well as the new Trident nuclear missile system, with each submarine carrying 24 missiles. The possible production of a neutron weapon, which has already been developed and tested, is being considered.

The U.S. armed forces are subdivided into three branches (Army, Air Force, and Navy), as well as into arms and services. On the basis of designation, they include the following principal components: strategic offensive forces, which include intercontinental ballistic missiles, the fleet ballistic missile system, with missiles deployed on nuclear-powered submarines, and strategic bombers; strategic defensive forces, comprising various antiaircraft defense and missile defense means; general-purpose forces, which covers the remaining regular Army, Air Force and Navy combined units.

The Army, totaling 785,000 men, contains armored, mechanized, infantry, airborne and airmobile combined units.

The Air Force, totaling 612,000 men, contains aircraft, intercontinental ballistic missiles, antimissile and antiaircraft systems, and various space hardware.

The Navy, totaling 536,000 men, consists of the Navy proper and the Marine Corps. The Navy possesses more than 700 warships and auxiliary vessels, and the Marine Corps contains three divisions and three air wings.

A substantial part of the U.S. Armed Forces is stationed far from U.S. soil, along the borders of the socialist and other countries. A very large force is stationed in Europe -- 310,000 men, comprising the 7th Army, three air forces, and the Sixth Fleet.

Combat training is intensive and is focused on training for offensive operations in coordination with the troops of U.S. military-political bloc partners.

The armed forces of Great Britain. Armed forces have always played an important role in the history of British imperialism, in predatory wars and bloody campaigns. According to the calculations of historians, from the 15th to the 20th century Great Britain has waged 230 wars and military campaigns, the principal aims of which have been seizure of colonies and the enslavement of other peoples. In the postwar period British troops undertook more than 60 punitive expeditions and campaigns against peoples fighting for their freedom.

Great Britain is an indispensable member of many imperialist military-political blocs. It is one of the leading forces in NATO. Britain's military budget has almost doubled in recent years: from 3 billion 612 million pounds in the 1974/75 fiscal year to 6 billion 329 million pounds in the 1977/78 fiscal year. In the 1978/79 fiscal year Britain's military budget will total 6,919,000,000 pounds. Both this year and next, British expenditures on the military will increase by 3%, in conformity with pledges to NATO.

Great Britain's armed forces possess potent, modern weapons, including nuclear missile weapons. Great Britain's regular armed forces total 345,000 men. Just as the United States, Great Britain devotes considerable attention

to building and developing strategic nuclear missile forces. At the present time they include four nuclear-powered submarines, carrying 64 Polaris A-3 missiles. In 1977 it was decided to modernize the warhead of these missiles. As is reported by British newspapers, preference is given to a double warhead, which in killing force exceeds the MIRV multiple independently-targeted reentry vehicle warhead.

British military leaders are taking measures to increase the combat strength of their ground forces, which total 175,000 men. The most powerful force is the so-called British Army of the Rhine, totaling 55,500 men, which is part of NATO Joint Forces in Europe. In recent years this army has been equipped with new tanks, tactical missiles and antitank weapons. It has been decided to replace infantry battalions with mechanized and airmobile battalions.

Ground forces are equipped with 900 Chieftain tanks, Honest John rockets, and modern antitank and artillery weapons.

The Air Force totals 94,000 men in regular units, more than 500 combat aircraft, as well as anti-aircraft missile units.

British air forces in West Germany, comprising part of NATO forces, total approximately 150 bombers and fighters, some of which carry nuclear weapons. British air forces in the Near East are stationed on Cyprus and Malta. They are equipped with medium bombers, reconnaissance aircraft, air defense fighters, fighter-bombers, and patrol aircraft.

The Navy is traditionally considered the principal branch of the British Armed Forces and in combat strength is second in the capitalist world, surpassed only by the U.S. Navy. The navy is the principal carrier of Britain's strategic nuclear weapons. The cadre numerical strength of the British navy is 76,000 men. The navy possesses 160 warships, including 8 nuclear-powered submarines (four of which carry missiles), 20 diesel-powered submarines, an aircraft carrier, helicopter carriers, destroyers, and frigates. A number of warships carry missiles.

Armed Forces of the FRG. In spite of the decisions reached at the 1945 Potsdam Conference, at which the member nations of the anti-Hitler coalition pledged to take all measures to prevent Germany from ever again threatening world peace, the United States and Great Britain have unilaterally done everything possible in their occupation zones to encourage the growth and development of the forces of militarism and revanchism. The so-called Paris Agreements were signed in 1954, which clearly specified rebirth of West German armed forces. In 1955 the FRG was officially accepted into NATO, which gave a new impetus to the arms race in West Germany. The FRG is presently second behind the United States and first among the Western European NATO members in military expenditures. It is not without good reason that the newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE stated frankly: "The core of NATO is becoming increasingly obvious: America plus the FRG."

From 1955 through 1975 the Bonn defense ministry spent more than 370 billion marks on maintaining and equipping West Germany's armed forces. Its expenditures increased by 80% just from 1971 to 1976. They exceeded 32 billion marks in 1977. In 1978 the Defense Ministry's budget will increase by 4.3% over 1977 and will reach a record level -- 34.3 billion marks.

Almost half of the divisions and more than half of the tanks in NATO forces in Central Europe belong to the Bundeswehr. West German military officials, based on West Germany's contribution to NATO, are gradually occupying top-echelon positions in the headquarters and establishments of this aggressive bloc. In 1956 NATO headquarters and military establishments contained only 22 West German military personnel, while by the beginning of the 1970's there were approximately 1,600, including more than 30 generals and admirals.

At the end of 1977 there was announcement of the appointment of West German Bundeswehr General Schmuckle to the position of deputy commander in chief of NATO Joint Forces in Europe. Up to that point U.S. General Alexander Haig, head of NATO forces in Europe, had only one deputy, a representative of the British armed forces. Now there are two -- West Germany's Ministry of Defense succeeded in boosting its general into the highest military orbit within the NATO alliance.

Having risen on the yeast of militarist appropriations, the West German military-industrial complex is exerting increasingly noticeable influence on matters of NATO strategy and tactics and is openly redistributing contract orders in its own favor. Many NATO member nations are buying West German military equipment. West German military concerns, publicized and advertised by the Bundeswehr, supply their goods to more than 50 different countries. The scale of arms production has long since gone beyond the bounds of that country's defense requirements. West German Leopard tanks are being sold to Norway, Italy, Belgium, Australia, and Canada. Submarines are being sold to Turkey and Greece as well as several Latin American countries.

Last year the firm Orbital Transport und Raketen AG (OTRAG), operating under the West German flag but clearly linked to overseas partners, signed a deal with Zaire. OTRAG, the chairman of the oversight council of which is Kurt G. Debus, who in Hitler's Germany was in charge of testing the V-2 rockets and who after the war worked in the United States together with Werner von Braun on the development of rockets for the United States, according to this agreement received for its use up to the year 2000 a vast territory equal in size to three fourths of the entire territory of the FRG. According to reports in foreign periodicals, this transnational monopoly, operating in circumvention of international agreements which prohibit the FRG from producing missile weapons on its own territory, is engaged in the development of rockets which are capable, as the company's director L. Kaiser admits, of carrying a nuclear warhead. OTRAG is building a cruise missile and an intermediate-range ballistic missile. It is believed that in time these missiles will be turned over to West Germany's armed forces.

The Bundeswehr totals 495,000 men.

Ground forces comprise the nucleus of the Bundeswehr. They total 345,000 men, approximately 70% of the total numerical strength of West Germany's armed forces. The ground forces contain 12 divisions, organized into three army corps.

The Air Force, which contains 17 squadrons, is an important element of NATO combat-ready forces in Europe. The aggressive thrust of this branch of the armed forces is evident from its composition: two squadrons of Pershing operational missiles, as well as approximately 450 U.S.-made fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons.

The Navy possesses approximately 165 ships and, according to NATO plans, has the mission of engaging surface warships and submarines (chiefly in the Baltic), blockading the Baltic straits, landing amphibious forces, supporting the coastal flank of NATO ground forces, and supporting sea lines of communications in the North Sea and the Baltic.

For a long time now not one Western European NATO maneuver has been held without the participation of West German troops. Their subunits are incorporated into all "fire-brigade" NATO units. The Bundeswehr has "occupied" and is openly utilizing for its own purposes military training centers of its allies. West German tanks operate year-round on a Canadian Army tank training range in the Province of Manitoba. West German pilots and naval personnel receive training at U.S. bases in Arizona and Texas, as well as on the islands of Sardinia and Crete. Things have gone so far that, "for the purpose of defense of NATO's northern flank," for the first time since the war the Bundeswehr has been given permission to participate in maneuvers on Norwegian soil.

France's armed forces. France is a member of NATO, but since 1966 has not participated in this bloc's military organization. The French armed forces were removed from subordination to NATO generals and are totally under national command. In the summer of 1976, however, General Guy (Meri), chief of staff of France's armed forces, advanced a "new form of strategy," involving a certain revision of the root fundamentals of French policy in the area of defense, laid down by General de Gaulle and reaffirmed by his successor, Georges Pompidou, and subsequently by current President Giscard d'Estaing as well. As General Guy (Meri)'s statement indicates, "the new form of strategy" provides that in case of a conflict between the NATO member nations and the European socialist countries, French armed forces can be immediately thrown into combat against the socialist countries in the forward position. "It is by no means out of the question," stated the chief of staff of France's armed forces, "that we shall participate in this battle on the forward defense line."

France is the third nuclear power of the capitalist world, a country possessing modern armed forces. It maintains Western Europe's largest armed forces --

more than 500,000 men, spends 45% of allocated scientific research funds for research in the area of military affairs, and its military budget, including indirect military expenditures, comprises almost one third of total government spending. In 1978 its military budget will reach a record figure -- more than 80 billion francs.

The "nuclear strategic forces" are considered the principal forces, containing 18 ground-launched ballistic missiles, 36 Mirage IVA aircraft -- nuclear weapon carriers -- and four nuclear-powered missile-armed submarines. A fifth submarine, the "Taccan," will be commissioned at the end of 1978. Reuters reported, claiming military-industrial circles as the source of its information, that France is developing its own cruise missile.

The ground forces (not including military police) total 331,500 men, noncommissioned officers and officers, and comprise the basis of so-called "maneuver" (1st Field Army) and "intervention" (11th Airborne Division) forces. The 1st Field Army consists of two corps, one of which is stationed in West Germany. This branch of the armed forces is presently being reorganized.

According to figures in foreign publications, the ground forces will consist of 16 divisions in peacetime and 30 divisions in wartime. In peacetime the ground forces will contain 8 armored divisions, 6 infantry divisions, 1 alpine rifle division, and 1 airborne division.

The Air Force, with 102,000 men, possesses more than 450 combat aircraft.

In numerical strength naval forces (approximately 69,000 men) are significantly smaller than the other branches of the armed forces, but they possess considerable warship strength: two aircraft carriers, one helicopter carrier, two guided missile frigates, and approximately 60 destroyers. A nuclear-powered helicopter carrier is under construction.

Turkey (453,000 men), Italy (421,000 men), Japan (260,000 men), and Greece (161,000 men) presently maintain large armed forces.

The numerical strength of the armed forces of the other imperialist countries is comparatively small, but all these armies as a rule are equipped with modern weapons and are well trained, and are also interlinked by a system of aggressive military blocs.

In the armed forces of the capitalist countries intensive brainwashing of personnel is practiced, the basic content of which is anticommunism and anti-Sovietism, as well as praise for the existing regime in the capitalist countries. The myth of "a sharply growing Soviet military threat" is persistently instilled in personnel.

Anticommunist and anti-Soviet propaganda among personnel is conducted by methods of slander against Communist and worker parties and distortion of

their goals and policies. Propaganda of militarism, revanchism, and chauvinism is vigorously conducted.

Group classes with personnel on political topics during "commander information" hours, which are held by platoon leaders at least once a week, constitute the principal form of brainwashing.

Disciplinary practice is a powerful means of influencing military personnel. For example, the term "reward" is totally absent in the principal document controlling disciplinary practices in the U.S. armed forces, the "Uniform Code of Military Discipline." On the other hand, extremely harsh punishments are specified: arrest with up to 30 days in the stockade, up to 45 days of extra duty, and confinement to post for up to 60 days.

Particular importance is attached to punishments involving financial penalties: withholding of up to 50% of pay for up to 2 months, and total loss of up to two thirds of pay for up to 2 months. It is typical that for a single infraction a commander can impose two and even three punishments simultaneously on an individual, one of which as a rule involves financial loss. If one considers thereby that more than half of all U.S. military personnel have families, and the cost of living is rising unchecked in that country, it becomes obvious what officers are counting on when implementing disciplinary practices.

Among punishment measures in bourgeois armed forces, so-called "stern lesson" techniques are widely practiced, based on inhumanity, cruelty, and sadism. With the aid of these devices noncommissioned officers and officers seek to harden a soldier, to transform him, in the words of famed American writer William Saroyan, "into unthinking robot number such and such." The purpose of such indoctrination was cynically clarified by Maj Gen Puller: "We do not at all break people. We break their civilian habits and we fashion of this compliant human clay soldiers who are prepared to kill whoever their commander orders them to kill." The following is just one example. U.S. Army private Lynn McClure, 20 years of age, died in a Texas military hospital, as his death certificate states, "from skull damage and brain hemorrhage." He was brought from the U.S. Marine Corps Training Center in San Diego, California in an unconscious state, with indications of blows by blunt objects on his body and head. The soldier was brutally beaten by drill sergeant G. Bronson, who subsequently was acquitted in court. Reporting this incident, the U.S. military newspaper NAVY TIMES stated that cases of this kind have long since become a regular occurrence in the U.S. armed forces.

It is important to note here that the top command echelon in the capitalist armed forces is quite indulgent toward those military personnel who think with them "in unison." They frequently get away with the most serious crimes: outrages perpetrated against civilians, robbery, acts of violence, and drunken debauchery.

Thus one can conclude that the principal aim of brainwashing military personnel and disciplinary practices in bourgeois armed forces is to ensure the absolute, blind obedience of personnel, so that they can be used at any time as an instrument for preserving the hegemony of the exploiter classes and execution of their aggressive schemes.

3. Aggressive Military Blocs of Contemporary Imperialism

Proceeding to the third item, the propagandist remains his audience of V. I. Lenin's statement about the possibility of agreements between capitalists and between capitalist powers in order "jointly to crush socialism in Europe, jointly to guard the plundered colonies...." ("Poln. Sobr. Soch.," Vol 26, page 354).

Establishment of military-political alliances has occupied an important place in the foreign policy of imperialism since World War II, although in the past "holy alliances" and coalitions of powers for economic and territorial division and redivision of the world were created time and again. However, never before in the entire history of mankind has there been observed such an abundance of different military groupings as exists today in the capitalist world.

The defeat of German fascism and Japanese militarism in World War II, a decisive role in which was played by the Soviet Union, led to a radical change in the balance of power between capitalism and socialism in the international arena. Socialism went beyond the framework of a single country and was transformed into a world system. The postwar period has been distinguished by an unprecedented upsurge in the national liberation movement, which led to the collapse of the colonial system of capitalism.

In a situation of historical rivalry between the forces of progress and reaction, the United States took upon itself the role of "savior" of capitalism. At the initiative and with the active participation of the United States, military blocs and regional groupings have appeared one after another: in 1948 in the Western Hemisphere -- the Organization of American States (OAS); in 1949 in Europe, North America and in the Atlantic -- the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); a three-power military bloc was established in 1951 in the region of Australia, involving the United States, Australia, and New Zealand (ANZUS); in 1954 -- the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO); in the Near and Middle East in 1955 -- the so-called "Bagdad Pact," which subsequently, in connection with the withdrawal of Iraq, was renamed the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO). By the mid-1950's the United States had enmeshed more than 40 countries in a spiderweb of shackling military treaties.

In the 1960's, escalating aggression in Indochina, imperialist circles established regional groupings and military-political alliances: in 1966 -- the Asia-Pacific Council (ASPAC), and in 1967 -- the Association of Southeastern Asian Nations (ASEAN). While not formally joining the above-mentioned

groupings, the United States is their actual organizer and leader. In 1971 Great Britain, with U.S. support, put together the "Bloc of Five" (ANZUK), which the foreign press calls "mini-NATO."

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which unites 15 capitalist countries with a total area of more than 22 million square kilometers and containing a population of approximately 550 million, became the principal military-political grouping of imperialist states.

NATO Joint Forces in Europe consist of joint ground forces, joint air forces and joint naval forces.

The NATO bloc remains one of the principal instruments of increasing tension. This was reaffirmed by the May (1977) meeting of the NATO Council in London, held at the level of heads of state and government. Directives of the NATO countries, which were drawn up under pressure from Washington, specify an increase in NATO military expenditures averaging 3% each year. NATO headquarters are preparing a 25-year long-range program for rearming the NATO member nations, including strengthening of nuclear forces in Western Europe.

A so-called "Atlantic week" was held in Brussels in December 1977, beginning with a meeting of the NATO "Eurogroup" and the "Defense Planning Committee," and ending with a meeting of the NATO Council. The participants in these activities, once again pushing the myth of a "Soviet threat," decided to increase the quantity of their missile systems by one third by the end of 1978. Other types of armament as well as military-strategic stockpiles will be increased in like measure.

A communiqué released by the "Eurogroup" notes that in 1977 its member nations -- West Germany, Great Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Greece, Denmark, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, and Luxembourg -- increased military expenditures by 4 billion dollars in today's prices. The "Eurogroup" is also presenting its draft figures for 1978 taking into consideration the new arms race. Under obvious pressure from the Pentagon, the defense ministers have pledged additionally to furnish their armed forces with large quantities of new combat equipment. They will receive in 1978 1,635 tanks and armored vehicles, 1,027 various missiles, hundreds of airplanes and helicopters, and dozens of warships.

The main U.S. pressure on its European NATO partners is directed at West Germany as the most powerful NATO military potential in Europe. It is precisely West Germany, according to U.S. military plans, which is designated to begin deployment of neutron weapons on its territory. Incidentally, the CDU faction in the West German parliament has already stated that it is in favor of West Germany, together with the other NATO allies, approving the U.S. plans to produce neutron weapons and incorporate them into the NATO arsenal. Some leaders of ruling parties also share this view. British Prime Minister Callaghan took upon himself the unenviable role of defender of the neutron bomb, attempting to justify the plans of the U.S. Government to deploy it in Western Europe.

General Haig, Supreme Commander of Joint NATO Forces in Europe, spoke out in favor of forcing neutron weapons on Western Europe, stating: "Since U.S. strategic deterrents are losing their superiority over the Russians and probably in the future will be neutralized by a strategic arms limitation agreement, the European theater is becoming much more vulnerable, and it will need its own deterrent capability."

NATO forces conducted 31 exercises in 1977 alone, under the cover of anti-Soviet fabrications. They included the biggest display of military force since World War II -- the "Reforger-77" maneuvers, during which 100,000 NATO member nation soldiers saw action over the course of two weeks in areas bordering on Warsaw Pact member nations. The purpose of these maneuvers, as stated by U.S. Defense Secretary Brown, was "to strengthen combat readiness and speed up the airlifting of U.S. military reinforcements to Western Europe."

Washington, attempting to plug up the breach in the system of imperialist blocs following the collapse of SEATO, is seeking to transform the Association of Southeast Asian nations (ASEAN), which includes Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia, into a military alliance with an anti-communist coloration. Open appeals are being made to transfer to ASEAN the functions of SEATO. The United States is following a well-worn path. They have appreciably increased the amount of military assistance to the countries which are members of this organization, are intensively promoting the idea of "standardization of arms in the ASEAN zone," and are shipping large quantities of arms into this region.

The U.S. imperialists are trying to justify the establishment of a military base on the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean and are strengthening their military presence in that region.

Contrary to détente and the demands of the Japanese people, who oppose re-militarization, Japan's ruling circles have recently stepped up efforts to increase that country's military strength. In 1977 Japan's military expenditures totaled approximately 1.7 trillion yen, while in 1978 the national defense agency has demanded 2 trillion. Plans call for spending 12.6 trillion yen in the coming 5 years on the needs of the "self-defense forces" -- 2.5 times as much as in the period 1972-1976.

A total of 10 countries and territories are enmeshed in imperialist military treaties and blocs in Asia and Oceania. In these countries regular armed forces alone total more than 2 million men, including 625,000 in South Korea, 494,000 in Taiwan, 266,000 in Indonesia, and 204,000 in Thailand.

The armed forces of the overwhelming majority of these countries are equipped with American arms, are trained by American instructors and are being adapted for employment in conformity with the strategy of imperialism.

The majority of countries in this region contain large U.S. troop contingents: 48,000 men in Japan, 42,000 in South Korea, 20,000 in Thailand, 15,000 in the Philippines, and 4,000 on Taiwan.

In the Near and Middle East imperialism is utilizing the CENTO military-political bloc (Great Britain, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan) for its aggressive purposes. A special role in U.S. global plans is today being assigned to Iran. Taken into consideration is its strategically important position on the Persian Gulf, an area containing sources of oil and oil transport routes to the industrially developed nations of the West. At the April (1977) meeting of the CENTO bloc military committee, held under conditions of considerable secrecy, the armed forces chiefs of staff of the United States, Great Britain, Pakistan, Iran and Turkey summarized the activities of this organization during the past year and drew up a new program of military-political measures.

Everyone knows of the cooperation between the Peking leaders and the principal imperialist military bloc, NATO, which is encompassing more and more new areas. This cooperation is based primarily on common anti-Soviet and anticommunist attitudes by both parties. Peking propaganda is constantly emphasizing the existence of "parallel" interests of China and NATO. Proceeding from the guidelines of the 11th Congress of the Communist Party of China, it tirelessly repeats that the Soviet Union is the "principal enemy" both of NATO and of the PRC.

We know that contrary to the slogan of "the necessity of reliance on one's own resources," Peking has taken the path of strengthening its military potential, relying both on the know-how of NATO strategists and on the resources of the military industry in the NATO nations. Toward this end, in 1977 Peking was visited by West German General Steinhoff, former chairman of the NATO military committee, present chairman of the Bundestag Commission on Defense Matters Werner, General Kielmannseg, former commander in chief of Joint NATO Forces in Central Europe, Admiral Poser, former director of the NATO intelligence service, and former U.S. Defense Secretary Schlesinger.

Completing presentation of the material on this topic, the propagandist points to intensification of the aggressiveness of imperialism at the contemporary stage and emphasizes that imperialist armed forces serve as the bulwark of the exploiter system and constitute the main instrument of the aggressive foreign policy of imperialism. The Soviet Union and the other nations of the socialist community constitute the major target of the military preparations of imperialism. The CPSU and the Soviet State, together with the brother socialist countries, are consistently implementing a policy of peace. The Soviet Union and the other countries of the Warsaw Pact, warning of the serious danger caused by an arms race in our nuclear missile age, present realistic proposals on restraining and ending the arms race and transitioning to disarmament. The statement by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in an address at an official meeting in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution rang out to the entire world: "We are vigorously and persistently seeking to ensure that the conflict between socialism and capitalism is not settled on the field of battle, not on the arms production lines but in the area of peaceful labor. We do not want the boundaries separating these two worlds to be crossed by missiles with nuclear warheads but by bonds of extensive, diversified cooperation for the benefit of all mankind."

The new USSR Constitution as well as the foreign and domestic policy of the CPSU and Soviet state convincingly affirm that our country has been and continues to a consistent fighter against militarism and for a reduction of arms and military forces.

At the same time our party and government, in view of the aggressive military preparations by imperialism, are taking the necessary measures to achieve further strengthening of this country's defense capability. Thanks to the concern on the part of the CPSU and the heroic labor of the Soviet people, our army and navy are equipped with first-class combat equipment and weapons. The defense potential of the Soviet Union is maintained at a level ensuring that nobody will risk disrupting the peaceful life of the Soviet people, our allies and friends.

Presenting a report entitled "Sixty Years Guarding the Achievements of the Great October Revolution" at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, stated: "The arms race in the capitalist countries, which is escalating year by year, as well as intensification of their military preparations, which are directed against the Soviet Union and the other socialist nations, demand that army and navy combat readiness be at all times at an adequately high level. This is the continuing mission of Soviet fighting men. And they have an attitude of deep understanding and a feeling of great responsibility toward performance of this mission and toward improving their combat skills."

The fighting men of the Soviet Army and Navy are working persistently to master combat equipment and weapons and are increasing their vigilance and combat readiness. They celebrated an important jubilee -- the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces -- with additional success in military labor and socialist competition. The defenders of the homeland are filled with resolve honorably to carry out the responsible task assigned to them by the 25th CPSU Congress -- to guard the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and to serve as a bulwark of world peace.

During hours of independent study it is recommended that the men study V. I. Lenin's "The Army and Revolution" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch.," Vol 12, pp 111-114), Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's report entitled "Report by the CPSU Central Committee and Current Party Tasks in the Area of Domestic and Foreign Policy" ("Materialy XXV s"yezda KPSS" [Proceedings of the 25th CPSU Congress], pp 22-25, 83), Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's address entitled "The Great October Revolution and Progress by Mankind" (PRAVDA, 3 November 1977), replies by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev to questions put by a PRAVDA correspondent (PRAVDA, 24 December 1977), an address by USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, entitled "Sixty Years Guarding the Achievements of the Great October Revolution" (PRAVDA, 23 February 1978), and Chapter 9 of the textbook entitled "Na strazhe Rodiny" [Guarding the Homeland] (Voyenizdat, 1974).

It is advisable to discuss the following items in the seminar: 1. The aggressive nature of imperialism and the function of armed forces of the imperialist nations; 2. Armed forces of the principal imperialist nations and a brief description of them; 3. Description of the principal imperialist bloc.

For the evening hours one can arrange a showing of the following documentary films: "Ordinary Fascism," "The Pentagon," "America's Path," "Hitler's Heirs on the Rhine," and the filmstrips "Armed Forces of the Imperialist Nations -- Instrument for Enslavement of the Toilers, Aggression and Brigandage," and "War Crimes of American Imperialism." In preparing for these classes one can utilize sheets 6, 7, and 8 of the visual aids folder entitled "Two Worlds -- Two Systems" (Voyenizdat, 1977).

LITERATURE FOR PROPAGANDISTS

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REVIEW OF THIRD VOLUME OF SOVIET MILITARY ENCYCLOPEDIA

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 7, Apr 78 signed to press
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[Article by Maj Gen L. Korzun: "Rich Source of Military Knowledge"]

[Text] The third volume of the Soviet Military Encyclopedia* is just as packed as the two preceding volumes with a wealth of material on various areas of military knowledge. It contains approximately 1,300 entries dealing with problems of Marxist-Leninist teaching on war and army, defense of the Socialist homeland, military science and the art of warfare, on the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union and foreign countries, military equipment and arms, military history, prominent commanders and military leaders, plus many other items. The volume contains approximately 400 illustrations, including 149 maps.

A large part of the volume is devoted to articles on military theory. A special place among articles of this type is occupied by materials devoted to the writings of the founders of Marxism-Leninism, including such writings as "The Civil War in France" by Karl Marx, "The European War" and "Notes on War" by Friedrich Engels, "The Impending Catastrophe and How to Combat It," "The Infantile disease of 'Leftism' in Communism," "Missions of Revolutionary Army Detachments," "Tasks of Revolutionary Social-Democracy in the European War," and "Imperialism as the Highest Stage of Capitalism" by V. I. Lenin.

Publication of such articles helps the reader gain an understanding of the major theses forming the basis of Marxist-Leninist teaching on war and army, on defense of the socialist homeland, and Soviet military science.

This volume examines in detail V. I. Lenin's classic work "Imperialism as the Highest Stage of Capitalism," in which the author presents a detailed, scientifically substantiated analysis of the economic and political nature of imperialism as a new, highest and final stage of capitalism, as the eve of the socialist revolution. Without such an analysis, without defining

*"Sovetskaya Voennoy Entsiklopediya," Vol 3, Voenizdat, 1977, 672 pages, illustrations, price 6 rubles 60 kopecks.

the essence of imperialism, as V. I. Lenin commented, "it is impossible to comprehend anything in assessing contemporary war and contemporary politics" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Works], Vol 27, page 302). The encyclopedia correctly directs attention to the importance of Lenin's conclusion that imperialism signifies monstrous militarization of the economy and all areas of societal affairs and that it engenders world wars which are unprecedented in history. This conclusion has retained its great significance up to the present day. As is noted in the CPSU Program, new phenomena in the development of imperialism confirm the correctness of Lenin's conclusions on the basic laws governing capitalism in its final stage and on intensification of its decay.

The correctness of Lenin's claim that imperialism is the source of wars is also confirmed by the content of the articles "Sources of Wars" and "Imperialist War." It follows from these articles that imperialism has not given up and cannot give up its aggressive foreign policy. Just since World War II imperialism has initiated more than 100 wars and military conflicts. The articles in this volume disclose the particular danger of strengthening of the influence of the military-industrial complex, which unites the most aggressive circles of monopoly capital, the military and their henchmen in government agencies in the capitalist countries and presents a comprehensive description of imperialist wars, including contemporary wars.

The aggressive nature of imperialism and consequently the continuing threat that imperialism will initiate war state in acute terms the question of defense of the revolutionary achievements of the toilers. A detailed article entitled "Defense of the Socialist Homeland" presents the Marxist-Leninist interpretation of this problem, V. I. Lenin's role in its elaboration, and the diversified activities of the CPSU on practical embodiment of the behests of Lenin.

At the present time defense of the socialist homeland remains one of the most important functions of the Soviet state, a primary task of the entire people, and an object of particular concern on the part of the Communist Party. This is formally stated in the CPSU Program and other party documents as well as in the new Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The article entitled "Duty, Military" is organically linked with the article "Defense of the Socialist Homeland." Presenting the essence of this concept in the socialist society, the author of the article at the same time points out the root difference between Soviet and capitalist military duty. For Soviet military personnel duty consists in total dedication to the homeland, to the people, to the Communist Party, and the aspiration to dedicate all of one's energy and one's life if necessary in the name of the interests of the people, in discipline, honesty, bravery, vigilance, in solid knowledge, intelligent and conscientious fulfillment of the demands of the military oath, military regulations and orders. This article focuses attention on an organic combining of the patriotic and international duty of our military personnel.

The essence of the internationalism of Soviet military personnel is examined in the articles entitled "Internationalism in Organizational Development of the USSR Armed Forces," "International Duty," and "International Indoctrination of Soviet Military Personnel." Considerable interesting factual data on this subject is also contained in the articles entitled "International Brigades in Spain, 1936-1938" and "Red Army International Units, 1918-1922."

Among the materials on military theory in this volume, we should mention the article entitled "Doctrine, Military." It defines military doctrine as the system of views, adopted by a country for a given period of time, on the aims and character of a potential war, on preparation of the country and the armed forces for war, and on the modes of its conduct. Clearly defined are two interlinked aspects of military doctrine: political, defining the political goals and character of a war, their influence on military organizational development and preparation of the country for war, and military-technical, connected with modes of waging armed combat, military organizational development, technical equipping of the armed forces, and maintaining their combat readiness. Discussing the class character of military doctrines, the authors focus attention on the fundamental differences between Soviet and bourgeois military doctrine. They stress that unjust wars of plunder and the desire to seize the territory and wealth of other peoples are alien to the Soviet Union. They cite a declaration by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev that "our country will never take the path of aggression, will never raise up the sword against other peoples." As we know, the Fundamental Law of our nation states: "Relations between the USSR and other nations are based on observance of the principles of sovereign equality; mutual repudiation of the employment of force or the threat of force; inviolability of borders; territorial integrity of nations; peaceful settlement of disputes; non-interference in internal affairs...."

The third volume continues discussion of various aspects of such an exceptionally complex sociopolitical phenomenon as war. The readers' attention will unquestionably be drawn by the article "Laws and Customs of War," particularly that part which deals with the laws of war as objective realities, which determine the internal, essential relationships of the phenomena of war, which define its character and place in the historical process, the course and outcome of war. The article emphasizes that a consistently scientific explanation of the essence, content, mechanism of action and utilization of the laws of war is possible only on the basis of Marxist-Leninist theory and methodology, and it examines the relationship between the course and outcome of war on the one hand and its political aims on the other, on the correlation of economic forces, scientific potentials, moral-political forces and capabilities, and the military forces (potentials) of the belligerent nations (coalitions). The experience of history attests to the fact that victory is won by that side which represents a new, more progressive social and economic system and which effectively utilizes the capabilities contained in that system. The article argues that knowledge and innovative utilization of the laws of war makes it possible to foresee the course of events, to make well-substantiated decisions, and more efficiently to manage the course of combat.

We should note, however, that the title of the article does not fully correspond to its content. It contains nothing about the customs of war. It would clearly have been more advisable to call the article "Laws of War" and present a description of the laws of war at the philosophical level, while examining the legal aspects in the articles "International Law" and "Naval Warfare."

Of great interest are the articles entitled "Dialectical Materialism," "Dialectics in Military Affairs," "Historical Materialism," and "Historical and Logical Methods in Military Cognition." Today one of the most important factors in the successful activities of every officer, general officer and flag officer in any area is their thorough mastery of the wealth of Marxist-Leninist philosophy. And one unquestioned virtue of the articles on dialectical and historical materialism is that their content is organically linked with the tasks performed by military science and with many theoretical and practical problems of military affairs. In particular, the authors demonstrate the significance of materialist dialectics as the methodological foundation of military theory and practice; they discuss in detail the manifestation of the fundamental laws of dialectics in military affairs: the unity and struggle of opposites, transition from quantitative to qualitative changes, and the negation of negation. Also instructive and useful are statements on the applicability for the study of war of such philosophical categories as content and form, essence and phenomenon, cause and effect, chance and necessity, possibility and actuality, the individual, the particular and general, plus others. As we know, utilized for achieving political goals in war are armed forces as the main and decisive means, as well as economic, diplomatic, ideological and other means of combat. A special article deals with discussion of the essence of the ideological struggle in war. It discusses the essence of opposition between the warring sides in the area of ideology, the forms and means of ideological-political and moral-psychological influence on armed forces personnel and the civilian population of the belligerent countries. Indisputable is the conclusion that the role and significance of ideological struggle becomes greater with expansion of participation by the masses in wars, development of productive forces and means of warfare, aggravation of class, ethnic and other conflicts, and increased intensity of combat actions. Socialist nations possess an undisputed advantage in this regard, since they are guided by Marxism-Leninism and the policies of their Communist and worker parties, which enables them to reveal in a profoundly scientific manner the causes and character of a given war and to maintain at a high level the morale of their country's troops and civilian population.

Enhancement of the role of the morale factor in war predetermines the great significance of ideological preparation of armed forces personnel in peacetime. This work is examined in a special article, as an organic component of all ideological activities of the Communist Party. Military councils, command entities, political agencies, party and Komsomol organizations employ various forms and means for the purpose of developing in Soviet fighting men a Marxist-Leninist philosophical outlook, Communist consciousness,

moral-political and psychological staunchness, and the excellent fighting qualities which are essential for victory in today's combat. The Communist Party and its Central Committee supervise ideological work in the Armed Forces and define its tasks, content and areas. As was pointed out at the 25th CPSU Congress by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "affirmation in the consciousness of the toilers, particularly the younger generation, of the ideas of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, pride in the Soviet Union, in our homeland, and willingness to come to the defense of the achievements of socialism has been and remains one of the party's most important tasks."

Such data attest to the Great attention on the part of the CPSU toward this work sector. Just during the years of the Great Patriotic War the CPSU Central Committee Orgburo and Secretariat examined more than 90 items connected with ideological work. Equal importance is attached to this work today. The Armed Forces Conference of Ideological Workers in January 1975 was an important event in the ideological affairs of the Armed Forces.

This article examines concisely but fully the entire system of ideological work in the Armed Forces and reveals its basic forms and methods as well as features in accomplishing the various tasks facing the Soviet Army and Navy.

Materials on military organizational development, armed forces organization and training occupy considerable space in this volume.

The reader's attention will be drawn by an article on one-man command in the Soviet Armed Forces as a principle of military leadership, whereby commanders of the various echelons are invested with complete authority over their subordinates and bear full responsibility for all aspects of troop life and activities. On the basis of Lenin's instructions and party program theses, the authors demonstrate the inevitability and logical nature of unswerving implementation of this principle. The article focuses attention on the fact that the one-man commander implements Communist Party policy, carries out party and government decisions, unswervingly observes Leninist principles of leadership in all his activities, relies solidly on the party organization, skillfully utilizes criticism and self-criticism for correcting deficiencies, is constantly strengthening ties with the masses, and combines demandingness toward his subordinates with paternal concern for them. Strengthening of one-man command in the Soviet Armed Forces is inseparably linked with enhancing the role of political agencies, party and Komsomol organizations, and increasing the significance of party-political work. Also connected with this pattern is the article entitled "Instructions to CPSU Organizations in the Soviet Army and Navy." The current Instructions, in conformity with the point in the CPSU Program that Communist Party direction of the Armed Forces and strengthening of the role and influence of party organizations in the army and navy constitutes the foundation of military organizational development, and defines the structure and tasks of army and navy party organizations, and points out that direction of

party work in the army and navy is handled by the CPSU Central Committee through the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, which has the authority of a CPSU Central Committee section. Directly related to this topic are the articles "Instructions to Komsomol Organizations in the Soviet Army and Navy," "Political Agency Instructor," and others.

One of the main areas of activity of all commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol organizations is maintenance of a high degree of personnel discipline. The various aspects of this problem are examined in the articles "Discipline, Military," "Disciplinary Responsibility," "Disciplinary Practice," "Disciplinary Regulations of the Armed Forces of the USSR," and "Disciplinary Punishment." Military discipline constitutes rigorous, precise observance by all military personnel of the rules and procedures specified by laws and military regulations, as a most important condition of Armed Forces combat readiness and combat efficiency. The authors reveal the fundamental difference in the character, content and methods of strengthening military discipline in the Soviet Army and Navy and in the Armed Forces of the capitalist nations, note its enhanced role under present-day conditions and point to the paths of further strengthening. They include indoctrination of a Communist philosophical outlook, excellent moral-political and fighting qualities, conscious obedience to command personnel, a high degree of commander demandingness on subordinates, combined with respect for their personal dignity and continuous concern for them, etc in all military personnel. Diversified ideological indoctrination work and utilization of measures of persuasion has been and remains the main, determining element.

This volume contains considerable materials on Armed Forces branches and arms, in particular on engineer troops, fighter and fighter-bomber aviation, anti-aircraft missile troops, road repair and traffic control troops, plus others.

This volume contains a detailed article on civil defense, which is a component part of the nation's overall system of defense measures carried out for the purpose of protecting the civilian population and the nation's economy from mass destruction weapons and other enemy offensive weapons, as well as for the conduct of rescue and emergency repair operations. The reader is able to learn about the history of the origin and development of civil defense, the character and content of its principal tasks, principles of organization and leadership, as well as on the state of civil defense in the capitalist countries.

The materials in this volume contain an extremely detailed description of USSR DOSAAF -- a mass defense-patriotic organization of toilers, the task of which is to assist in strengthening the nation's defense capability and in preparing the people to defend the socialist homeland.

Speaking of military-history topics, we should mention the articles "History, Military," "History of Wars," and "History of the Art of Warfare." In these articles history is examined both as an actual process and as a science, with

definition of the subject and structure of the latter, and the fundamental difference between Soviet and bourgeois military-historical science is shown.

Materials on the civil war and a number of operations in the Great Patriotic War are connected with the glorious history of the Soviet people and its Armed Forces. It follows quite obviously from these materials that of all the sources of the world-historic victories of our army and navy, the main source is the guiding and directing role of the Communist Party.

This volume contains approximately 250 bibliographic entries on prominent Soviet and foreign party leaders, statesmen and military leaders.

Military-geographic topics are extremely broadly represented in this volume. The reader's attention will be drawn by the information on our planet, on the continent of Europe, on such countries as Greece, Denmark, Egypt, Israel, Iraq, Iran, Italy, the Yemen Arab Republic, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on a number of cities, etc.

It is of course impossible in a brief review article to encompass the entire wealth of subjects covered in this volume. Therefore we have mentioned only a few of what in our opinion are the most important topics. But we believe that it is evident from the above that this volume will provide the reader with important and high-quality information on various areas of military affairs. The wealth of content and high scientific-theoretical level of the overwhelming bulk of the materials confirms that the Soviet Military Encyclopedia indeed constitutes a fundamental presentation of military knowledge.

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